118. c. 12

An EASIE and SAFE

METHOD

For CURING the

King's Evil.

With ſeveral Obſervations which may be of Uſe and Service to People afflicted with that Diſtemper.

To which is added, a *Specimen* of *Succeſs*, in a faithful Relation of many extraordinary Cures on Men, Women, and Children.

In a Letter to a Friend.

The Fifth Edition, with Additions.

By *WILLIAM VICKERS*, M. A.

The Lord hath created Medicines out of the Earth, and he that is wiſe will not abhor them; and hath given Men Power and Skill, that he might be honour'd in his marvellous Works, Eccles. xxxviii. 4, 6.

Exiſtimo Deum perfecte & ſufficienter in Simpliçibus compoſuiſſe completa morborum quorumcunque remedia.——Felix ille qui Simplicibus tuto atque prompte novit tollere & conculcare morbos. *Helmont.*

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An EASIE and SAFE METHOD FOR CURING THE King's Evil, &c.

SIR,

IN Compliance with your late Requeſt, I have ſent you a ſhort Account of my Method for curing the *King's Evil*, a Diſtemper, you know, I was from my Infancy extremely afflicted withal; which continued ſo many Years on me, with that Violence, that all Hopes of Cure were given over by my Friends and Self. The Diſtemper had ſeiz'd upon both my Arms, upon my Right-Hand, the

The Author's Condition.

the Fore-finger of my Left, and alſo upon both my Feet, in ſuch a Degree, that ſeveral Surgeons were of Opinion that both Hands and Feet muſt be cut off. The Humour likewiſe fell with that Severity on both Eyes, that the Sight of each was judged irrecoverably loſt. In fine, my whole Body became ſo extremely Weak and Feeble, with continual Runnings in ſo many places, that for many Years I could neither go nor ſtand without Crutches. In this miſerable Condition, (without any Hopes or Proſpect of Relief) I lived many Years, until it pleaſed God to direct me to the Knowledge of thoſe Means, the extraordinary Effects whereof as much exceeded mine and all other Peoples Expectations, as the Benefit reaped did my Merits; by the Uſe whereof, God be praiſed, in a very few Months, I became perfectly Sound and Well. It's now full twenty Years ſince I was heal'd, enjoying as good Health and Sight as moſt People do, without any Fear or Apprehenſions of a Relapſe, being able to endure the coldeſt Weather, to read until Midnight, and to walk as much Ground, every Day, as the generality of People do, without ſuffering any Prejudice thereby. I once thought, as moſt People do, that the *King's-Evil*, eſpecially in ſuch a high Degree as I had it, was incurable; and I had reaſon to believe it, after many Years Endeavours had been ſpent for a Cure to ſo little Purpoſe, concluding, that when the Endeavours of many able and skilful Phyſicians had all along proved ineffectual, there remain'd nothing more to be done. As my ſad

Condition made me a diligent Enquirer after all ſorts of Remedies; ſo I never declined the Uſe of any Means, which might give me the leaſt Hopes or Proſpect of Succeſs. I was ſtroaked twice by King *Charles* II. and thrice by King *James* II. It's incredible, to tell the great Quantities of *Purges*, *Vomits*, *Diet-drinks*, *Lime-Waters*, *Millipedes*, *Rue-Whitlow-graſs*, and many other Things, not excepting *Mercurial* and *Antimonial* Remedies, which I have taken in my time; but nothing availed until it pleaſed God, by a wonderful Providence, to direct me to the Knowledge of this *Specifick*, which exceeded all my Hopes and Expectations.

And becauſe ſome have very high Thoughts of the two laſt-named Medicines, *viz.* *Mercurial* and *Antimonial*, it may not be improper to acquaint you that I made ſeveral Tryals thereof, but never reaped the leaſt Benefit or Advantage from the Uſe of either: I could perceive, indeed, this Difference, that each Kind acted with more or leſs Violence, according as they were impregnated with a greater or leſs Quantity of corroſive *Salts*; but in my Opinion the mildeſt of them is too ſtrong and virulent for Perſons afflicted with this Diſeaſe: At the beſt, I never found their Efficacy one Jot beyond what choice *Rhubarb* and *Sene* skilfully exhibited would perform: Rather the latter, according to my own Experience, anſwered the End and Deſign of Evacuation with much more Safety and Advantage. In one particular I was always very happy to reject a *Salivation*, a Remedy certainly worſe than the Diſeaſe.

For where it does not deſtroy Life, it entails ſo diſmal a Train of Miſeries, as a Man had better be buried alive than ſuffer. For my Part, I ſhould ever eſteem that Man the beſt Phyſician who attends to all future Conſequences; who, (as a certain Author ſaith) does not heal one Diſeaſe by procuring a worſe, but reſtores ſuch a Life as a Man can afterwards enjoy with Eaſe and Safety: Perhaps Craftſmen may not like theſe Reflections; but herein I act the Part of a Friend, which a wiſe Man accounts a very great Bleſſing, *A faithful Friend is the Medicine of Life, and he that fears the Lord ſhall find him.*

Vid. Dr. Morton *of Conſumptions, p.* 46.

Reflections upon Learning, p. 222.

Eccius. 6. 16.

Now in order to give you ſome Account of this Cure on my ſelf; it providentially came into my Mind, to make Experiment of one ſingle Remedy, believing, that Simplicity of *Medicine* might be as effectual, as that of *Diet*. The uſe whereof, firſt of all, I begun internally, with five or ſix Grains, Morning and Evening, in a Glaſs of Spring-Water; and for external Application, I us'd an *Ointment* and *Cerecloth*, made with the ſame Remedy. This Method I continued ſome time; but afterwards with much greater Advantage, I infuſed a certain Quantity of this *Specifick Remedy* in a Gallon of Spring-water, which, when it was fine and clear, became my conſtant Drink, abſolutely abſtaining from all other

other Liquors, except a Glaſs of Wine now and then, at Meals: By that time I had drunk of this *Specifick Water* 18 or 20 Days, I perceiv'd my Sores to run with a much greater Flux of Matter, than ever I knew them do before. Alſo ſeveral foul and rotten Bones, in ſeveral Joints, came forth, without any Pain or Trouble. And likewiſe, ſome hard and unulcerated Swellings aſſwaged, and went away with the like Eaſe. My Strength alſo increaſed conſiderably, and my uſual Pains (upon any ſudden Change of Weather) ceaſed, with ſuch a viſible Alteration throughout my whole Conſtitution, that, if I may ſo expreſs it, I thought my ſelf, in a manner, new created. *Its Effects.*

Two Things I obſerved very ſtrange and unaccountable: The Firſt was, That whereas my Sores, for the firſt Month or ſix Weeks, ran ſo exceſſively, that one would have thought it impoſſible to ſubſiſt under ſo great a Conſumption; yet my Strength increaſed the more; and by how much the more plentifully the Humour ſpent it ſelf this way, by ſo much the more hearty and ſtrong I perceiv'd my ſelf to grow. The other thing I obſerved, was, That my *Urine*, after ſome time taking of this *Specifick Remedy*, did become as thick and ropy, as tho' it had been blended with Whites of Eggs, or ſome ſuch-like viſcous Matter, which continu'd until all my Sores healed, as they did perfectly in about eight Months, or ſomething leſs. During which Courſe, *Two remarkable Symptoms.*

Courſe, I never found the leaſt Tendency or Diſpoſition unto Sickneſs, or any other Inconveniency whatſoever attend the uſe of theſe Means, but ſuch a difference for Eaſe, that there was no Compariſon between this Method of Cure, and thoſe I had been formerly treated withal; ſo eaſie and pleaſant in its Operation, and withal ſo efficacious.

To give you a rational Account, how this *Specifick* Remedy ſhould effect my Cure, after ſuch an eaſie and uncommon Evacuation; is, I confeſs beyond my *Philoſophy*. The Learned Dr. *Willis* hath, in his Way, accounted for the ſecret and hidden Operations of Medicines upon Humane Bodies, but I find no Intimation in his Writings, nor in any other Author of any ſuch Operation as mine produced; how Nature diſpoſeth Remedies to effect particular Cures, is in my Opinion no eaſie Matter to determine, ſince we are not able to form an adequate Judgment of Things ſo remote from our Senſes: And therefore, till ſuch time as I am able to talk otherwiſe than in the Vulgar Cant of *Thinning*, *Rarifying*, and *Attenuating* thoſe *ſtagnating*, *Coagulated Juices*, I will be ſilent of thoſe Matters; and ſhall only obſerve, that in the general I think it may from hence be concluded, that this Diſeaſe may be led, but not driven; and that the gentleſt Methods in any Man's Hands, will be always likely to prove the moſt ſucceſsful. Men may ſalivate and purge their Guts out, and not move it; and yet there may be ſome Simples and Methods

thods of *Diet*, which will effectually remove it, with infinite leſs Trouble and Vexation, than what People commonly undergo in theſe Caſes. I can truly affirm, from my own Experience, the greater Violence I was treated withal by others, by ſo much the worſe it fared with me. The ſame, I very well remember, was the uſual Complaint of all my Fellow-Sufferers, whereof I had a great Acquaintance, who are long ſince expired, much the ſooner, I fear, for that very Reaſon.

But however, it may perhaps be expected that, at leaſt, I ſhould give ſome Account of the Nature and Quality of this *Specifick Remedy*, by telling the World ſome pompous Stories of what Tribe it's deſcended, whether it be Animal, Mineral, or Vegetable; *Alkaly* or *Acid*, or the like; but I do not ſee what real Advantage this would be to the Afflicted. So long as the Thing is ſafe, and anſwers the End propos'd, it is, I think, no great Matter whether the Patient know its proper Name or no. When it firſt came to my Knowledge, I muſt confeſs, I thought it very unlikely to be a Thing of ſuch ſurprizing Efficacy; and ſo fooliſh was I, like many others, as to deſpiſe it for ſome time, becauſe it was not recommended by ſome great Perſon, whoſe Name and Authority might encourage its Uſe. But, as I am now fully convinced of that Folly; ſo I am fully ſatisfy'd, (contrary to my former Opinions) that there is no *Poiſon* without its *Antidote*, nor any Diſeaſe without its *Specifick*; whereof Nature, more than Art,

hath

hath the greateſt Number and Advantage; inſomuch that if a Man were to write a Hiſtory of Cures in all Diſeaſes, moſt of them, I believe, would be found accompliſh'd by ſome of the moſt ſimple and uncompounded *Remedies*; and moreover, that ſuch, for the moſt part, were diſcovered rather by Divine Revelation, Chance, or Accident, than by Rational Conjectures from Speculative Hypotheſes, or any other Philoſophick Methods. The *Indians*, who are perfect Strangers unto the Animal Oeconomy, having no other Knowledge of Phyſick and Surgery, than what the Light of Nature helpeth them to, cure all their Diſeaſes by the Application of their own *Roots* and *Plants*; being ſo perfectly skilled in the Virtues of Simples, that of ſome they prepare *Poiſons*, of others *Antidotes*. They cure Agues with the *Cortex*, and Venereal Diſtempers with *Guaiacum* *. And if from the *Weſt* we paſs to *China*

Piſo de Med. Braſ.

* *In urbe Poſto, ubi aliquot annis vixi, omnis generis morbos Indus quidam curabat ſolo cujuſdam plantæ ſucco artubus & parti affectæ illito. Ægros deinde ſtragulis egregiè tegebat ad ſudorem provocandum: Sudor è partibus illitis emanans, merus ſanguis erat, quem linteis pannis abſtergebat, atque ita in curatione pergebat, donec ſatis ſudaſſe putaret, optimè interea cibis eos alens. Eo remedio multi morbi deplorati curabantur, imò ægri juniores & robuſtiores ab ejus uſu fieri videbantur, ſed neque pretio, neque precibus, neque minis unquam efficere potuimus, ut eam plantam nobis demonſtraret.* Petrus *de* Oſma *in* Epiſt. *ad* Monard. *quæ extat in libello de Simplicibus Medicamentis ex occidentali* India *delatis.*

in

in the *East*, their Knowledge and Practice in *Physick* extends no further than Methods of *Diet*, and the Virtues of Roots and Plants either inwardly taken or outwardly apply'd.

The old *Galenists*, who prescrib'd Simples only, were as certain and successful in their Cures, as our Modern Physicians have been with all their Improvements. *Baglivi*, an Author of no mean Repute, saith, *That the* Empiricks, *who despised the Methods and Indications of the Rationalist, cured the most stubborn and grievous Diseases, with the Use of* Specificks, *as they call them.* And in another Place, saith the same Author, *This is evident, that both Acute and Chronical Diseases will be happily cured by that Man, who by Chance, or a long train of Experience, hath found out a* Remedy *to choak the Disease specifically. It were, indeed, to be wished,* saith our *English Hippocrates, That the Sick might arrive to Health, by a nearer Way,* viz. *by the help of* Specificks, *if any such can be found: And he* (saith the Doctor) *may deservedly be call'd a Physician, that hath such a Medicine, which is able to destroy the Species of the Disease. And no doubt* (saith he) *but out of that abundant Plenitude, with which Nature overflows, there is sufficient for the Cure of all those Diseases which afflict Mankind; and that, near at hand, in every Country. And therefore, it is much to be lamented, that the Nature of Plants is no better known to us, which seem to be the chiefest Part of the* Materia Medica, *and the likeliest*

Chap. 11.

Dr. Sydenham's *Preface.*

to

to afford such Remedies. The late Dr. *Willis*, tho' he was a great *Theorist*, yet he acknowledgeth thus much, that there are Remedies commonly called *Specificks*, and *Appropriates* known to operate without any sensible Evacuation. Sir *William Temple* likewise, among his other useful and excellent Observations, hath this: *The great Defects in this excellent Science*, speaking of Physick, *seem chiefly owing to the Professors Application* (*especially since* Galen's *time*) *running so much upon Method, and so little upon Medicine: And in this to have addicted themselves so much to Composition, and neglected the Use of Simples, as well as the Enquiries and Records of Specifick Remedies.* *Hippocrates* very much depended on the Use of *Specificks*; declaring, That his own Experience of them, and that of his Predecessors, was sufficient to recommend their Use, tho' he could give no rational Account of their Effects. *Galen* likewise relates several Cures done by some *Simples*, whereof he could give no Account as to their Operation. And *Solenander* says, He could tell what were the Diseases of each Country, by the Herbs that were most common in it. As among the *Danes* and *Dutch*, with whom the *Scurvy* is very frequent, *Scurvy-grass* groweth plentifully. The Honourable and Learned Mr. *Boyle* had so good an Opinion of the Excellency of *Specificks*, that he hath written a Dis-

Phar. Rat.

Miscell. 153.

Le Clerc's *Hist.*

Lib. 2.

Diſcourſe of the Reconcileableneſs of *Specifick Remedies* to the Corpuſcular Philoſophy, to recommend the Uſefulneſs of what he found ſo well approved of among the Ancients, though now rejected by ſome through a vain Pretence to Modern Fancies and Amuſements. If a Man knew but the Vertues of our own Native *Simples*, and could uſe them with that Simplicity as Nature yeildeth them, I know not but he might thereby become as famous as the great *Hippocrates*, who ſtudied *Nature* more than *Art*; and thought it not below him to inform himſelf of Remedies from the meaneſt People when confirm'd by Experience. *If we conſider the Lucriferouſneſs of Things*, (ſaith our great Naturaliſt) *and their Medical Vertues, we ſhall find that we trample upon many things, for which we ſhould have cauſe to kneel and offer God Praiſes, if we knew all their Qualities and Uſes.* And ſecond to him, the Honourable Mr. *Boyle* hath, among his other excellent Diſcourſes, one Eſſay, to ſhew, *That there is ſcarce any thing in Nature, whereof the Uſes to human Life are yet throughly underſtood.* And to the ſame Purpoſe ſpeaks *Paracelſus*, *There is nothing ſo Vile and Deſpicable, but what may conduce to the Uſe and Health of Man.* 'How many Cures (ſaith *Baglivi*) are brought to paſs, by thoſe contemptible Things, which, to our thinking, are uſeleſs, and unworthy our Notice; nay, oftentimes, according to our way

Hipp. prec.

Lord Verulam.

Uſe of Nat. Exp. Philoſophy.

' of Reaſoning, directly oppoſite to the Nature ' of the Diſeaſe? Divers People, *ſaith he*, ' worn out with the long Tyranny of Diſeaſes, ' and the fruſtraneous Uſe of all the known ' Methods and Remedies, have happily reco- ' vered by ſome Medicines, whereunto Phyſi- ' cians and Surgeons have been perfect Stran- ' gers. Let this convince us of the Raſhneſs, if not Folly, of ſome Men, who abſolutely pronounce thoſe Diſeaſes incurable, wherein themſelves have not ſucceeded; and decry all other Means as uſeleſs and dangerous, whereof themſelves are not the ſole Proprietors. This Partiality and Selfiſhneſs, I reckon among thoſe numerous Hindrances which obſtruct the Improvement of Phyſick; for hereby it comes to paſs that many a good Medicine, (brought to Light by Experience, or Chance, which might be of great Uſe and Service to the Publick) is deſignedly cried down for that very Reaſon. But to return to our Author: ' It's ' not altogether much Learning, (*ſaith he*) but ' certain and demonſtrative Knowledge, raiſed ' from Experience, that will do our Buſineſs. ' We muſt not diſpute, but try what Nature ' yeildeth for the Good of Mankind; and what ' we cannot reach by Speculation, we muſt ' not preſently brand for Impoſſibility in Na- ' ture, and reproach her with the Infirmity of ' our Art. We muſt bend our Thoughts, with ' all Diligence and Conſtancy, to diſcloſe new ' Medicines and Methods for curing thoſe Diſ- ' eaſes we call incurable. For tho' ſome of ' them are in Effect incurable; yet the greateſt

' Part

'Part of them are only ſuch, not from the 'Impoſſibility of the Thing, but from our 'Weakneſs. In fine, (*ſaith he*) we ought to 'make it our earneſt Buſineſs, to find out *Spe-'cifick Remedies*, that whereſoever this Science 'is weak in Theory, ſuch may keep up its 'Majeſty and Weight. And doubtleſs, no-thing can conduce more to the Health of Mankind, than Phyſicians applying themſelves to ſearch out ſuch Remedies, which, by divine Appointment, are Specificated to every Diſtemper; whereof (it's not unreaſonable to think) infinite Goodneſs, in Commiſeration to our manifold Infirmities, hath provided as great a Variety, as there are Diſeaſes incident to Mankind. But ſo ſcanty is our Knowledge, that *maxima pars eorum quæ ſcimus, eſt minima pars eorum quæ neſcimus.* We may truly ſay of Vegetables, what the Queen of *Sheba* once ſaid of *Solomon*'s Wiſdom and Magnificence, *the half of them hath not been declar'd or reveal'd to us.* Nay, ſuch is our Misfortune, in this reſpect, that the Vertues of thoſe Roots and Plants already known, and which might be of great Service, are loſt and deſtroyed by Heterogeneous Mixtures, whereof *Galen*, in his Time, makes a grievous Complaint, as a principal thing, whereby the practical Knowledge of the *Materia Medica* was greatly obſtructed.

Galen de Medicamentorum Compoſitione, Lib. 1.

Scribonius Largus, who flouriſhed in the Times of the Emperors *Tiberius* and *Claudius*, pre-

In Epiſt. ad lib. de Compoſ.

Medic. lib. 1. *c.* 1. *Rerum Medic. lib.* 1. *c.* 1. ſerr'd *Simple Medicaments* before Compounds. And *Octavianus Horatianus*, under *Valentinian*, condemn'd both Compounds and all foreign Remedies; maintaining, that in *every Country* Nature had provided a Sufficiency of *Simples*, to anſwer all Indications, and for every *Age*, *Diſeaſe*, and *Occaſion* whatſoever. *Pliny*, a moſt eminent Naturaliſt, is very importunate for the Uſe of Simple Remedies: As alſo *Paulus Ægineta*, *Aetius*, and other Authors.

During the Reign of the *Yncas* in *Peru*, (one of the moſt conſiderable Conſtitutions of abſolute Monarchy in the World) no Compoſitions were allow'd in Point of Medicine, but only Simples proper to each Diſeaſe. And to come to our own Times, and our own Country, *Helmont*, tho' no great Friend to *Galenical* Medicines, yet *Credo* (ſaith he) *Simplicia, in ſua ſimplicitate eſſe ſufficientia pro ſanatione omnium morborum.* The greateſt Cures (ſaith Dr. *Baynard*) that ever I have done in my Life-time (and I thank God I have had as good Succeſs as any of my Neighbours) I have done by *Simples*. The ſame I find atteſted in the Writings of divers other eminent modern Phyſicians. How fatal and miſchievous is the Small-pox to moſt People in this Kingdom! and yet I know a certain Plant, the Infuſion whereof taken liberally in common Drink, hath often prov'd an admirable Remedy to prevent all thoſe dangerous Symptoms uſually attending that Diſeaſe.

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The uſual Practice in curing the Evil, I have obſerv'd to run in a manner chiefly upon Evacuation, with the Uſe of the Decoction of the Woods, and ſome other Simples; which Medicines are ſo generally known and fix'd, that if 500 People were afflicted with this Diſtemper, and as many Phyſicians conſulted, a Man might not only pretty nearly gueſs, what each of them would preſcribe; but alſo, what Effects each Perſon might expect from their Preſcriptions. But now, as this my *Specifick* Remedy is new and uncommon, ſo likewiſe are its Operations different from any Medicines I ever yet knew or heard of. For, no ſooner is this Remedy incorporated with the whole Maſs of Blood, but the ſcrophulous Ulcers open like ſo many Flood-Gates, pouring out the Humour with a mighty Current, which, to every body's thinking, ſhould rather waſte and conſume the Body, than encreaſe its Strength and Vigour. But, on the contrary, by how much the more plentifully the Humour ſpends it ſelf this way, by ſo much the more hearty and ſtrong do People grow: Experience fairly intimating this to be the moſt proper Means to perform a Cure; becauſe this viſcous and ſtubborn Humour, which will not yield to other Evacuations, tho' never ſo ſtrong, is hereby thrown out, the Way which Nature indicates to disburden her ſelf. This paſs'd for a Maxim with *Hippocrates*; *Thoſe things* (ſaith he) *which are to be carried off, are to be drawn whither they moſt incline, through ſuch* *Aphor.* 22.

Ways and Places, as are fitteſt for Conveyance and Expulſion. And methinks, it ſhould eaſily be allowed, that to promote a regular *Secretion* of the Morbifick Matter in thoſe Places where Nature hath determin'd to empty her ſelf, is the moſt rational and ſafeſt Method for eradicating this Diſeaſe, tho' ſometimes with ſome People this *Specifick* Remedy will precipitate this Humour, and bring it away by *Urine* alſo. Which, as the divine *Hippocrates* hath elſewhere obſerv'd, is a good Sign of a ſucceeding Cure.

Nat. Hiſt. p. 168. *Exper.* 692.

Wiſe Phyſicians (ſaith the Lord *Bacon*) ſhould, with all Diligence enquire what Remedies Nature yieldeth; having extreme ſubtle Parts, without any *Mordication* or *Acrimony*; for they (ſaith he) undermine that which is *hard*, they open that which is *ſtopp'd* and *ſhut*, and they expel that which is offenſive gently, without too much *Perturbation*. And the ingenious Dr. *Tho. Fuller* ſaith, that *Specificks* are found, by Experience, to have Reſpect to one Part more than another; that a Medicine may ſtrike a particular Impreſſion on one Humour, and not touch another: Whereof the Doctor gives us many Inſtances. *And therefore* (ſaith the Doctor in another Place) *though the faſhionable Opinion of late Years runs, that there is no ſuch thing as* Electives, *reſpecting one Humour more than another, yet irrefragable Experience proves otherwiſe*

Phar. Extemp. P. 88.

P. 336.

wiſe to the very Senſes. And, indeed, the Suffrages of all our eminent Phyſicians and Naturaliſts do agree, that Remedies might be found to act more directly upon ſome particular Parts and Humours, than upon others: Which, as the Lord *Bacon* truly obſerves, is the Cauſe *why Empericks and Old Women are more happy, many times, in their Cures, than Learned Phyſicians; becauſe they are faithful and ſteady to thoſe approv'd Medicines, which they have found out for particular Diſeaſes*; and therefore, ſaith he, it would be matter of good Conſequence, if ſome Phyſicians of Note for Learning and Practice, would compile a Work of *Probations, and experimental Medicines for the Cure of particular Diſeaſes. No doubt*, ſaith the ſame Author, *if Phyſicians, letting Generalities go for a while, and ſuſpending their Aſſent thereto, would make their Approaches to Nature, they might become Maſters of that* Art *whereof the Poet ſpeaks.*

Advancement of Learning, *p.* 196.

Et quoniam variant morbi variabimus artes,
Mille mali Species mille ſalutis erunt, *Ovid.*

The Ancient Botaniſts have computed the Numbers of their Medicinal *Roots* and *Plants* to amount to ſix Thouſand, ſince whoſe Time a great many other Diſcoveries have been made in the Vegetable Kingdom by our modern *Herbaliſts*, tho' no Man ever yet attained to a perfect Knowledge in thoſe things but *Solomon*, who is ſaid in Scripture *to ſpeak of Trees from the Cedar-tree that is in* Lebanon,

1 Kings 4.33.

even

even to the Hyſſop that ſpringeth out of the Wall: But now, in the common Practice, thoſe Simple Remedies, which by a *Specifical* Propriety reſpect the Cures of particular Diſeaſes, are very few; nay, in a manner, quite loſt. Men of late Years deducing the Cauſes of all Diſtempers from thoſe Two giddy Notions of *Alkaly* and *Acid*, have put their Indications of curing all Diſtempers upon that Foot, tho' at the ſame time, they are wholly ignorant what *Acid* produceth any Diſeaſe, or what *Alkaly* removes it. *Pliny* ſays, we are Ignorant of what we live upon; but, in my Opinion, we are leſs acquainted with that which makes us ſick. Daily Experience convinceth us, that our Conſtitutions are injur'd by a thouſand things which are neither *Acid* nor *Alkaly*, nor any thing like them: And, on the contrary, that many Diſtempers are cur'd by thoſe very things, which, according to our Reaſon and Way of Thinking, are directly oppoſite to the very Nature of the Diſeaſe: *We ſee Contraries often prove Remedies to one another in the Juices, and Poiſons become beneficial, when oppos'd to certain Humours; the World has, lately, had full Evidence of the Good Effects of an intenſe Cold, equally apply'd to all the Parts of the Body, at once; which Method of Curing, ſome Years ago, was thought very extravagant, and certainly deſtructive.*

Dr. Fuller Med. Gymnaſtica.

The Honourable Mr. *Boyle* hath long ſince prov'd by many chymical Experiments, that there is nothing

Anatomy of Human Blood.

nothing of *Acid* * in human Blood, and the ingenious Dr. *Pitcarne* has likewiſe demonſtrated that *acid Subſtances* † of Vegetables taken into the Stomach are turn'd into *Alkalious*: And accordingly, ſome Phyſicians have a-

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* *Whoſoever will ſo far dote upon* Acids *or* Alkalies, *as to reſt principally on their Aids and Aſſiſtances, or ground his Expectations of Succeſs upon ſuch Fictions, will deſervedly expoſe his Ignorance, and make his unfortunate Patient pay dear for his Phyſician's Bigotry.* Dr. Curtis's Eſſays of Health.

The late ingenious Dr. Drake *ſpeaking of ſome fallacious Judgments about the good and bad Diſpoſition of human Blood, hath this Obſervation,* 'When they 'ſee the fizy Pellicle (*ſaith the Doctor*) they cry 'out Acidity, *which they imagine to be the Cauſe of* 'that Coagulum; *whereas it's the Product of the* 'direct contrary: *Only a Mixture of the aqueous and* 'oily *Parts of the Blood, by means of too much* Vola-'tile Salt, *which by an intenſe Heat are inſeparably* 'incorporated. Anthropologia nova, Vol. 2. p. 448. *Now if the Doctor's* Hypotheſis *be true, then by a Parity of Reaſon Alkalious Medicines can never be effectual for the Curing the* King's Evil, *ſince the Doctor makes thoſe kind of Salts to be the effectual Cauſe of* Corroſive, Stagnating, *and* Coagulated Juices. *But however this may be, I doubt not but it will be owned by all, that one effectual Medicine to cure the Diſeaſe, is more to the purpoſe than a thouſand Reaſonings* Pro *and* Con *about it.* Neque enim ſi Veritas eſſet inventu facilis, tot ac tanti viri in ea querenda occupati, in tam contrarias ſectas fuiſſent unquam diſpertiti. *Paracelſus.*

† Vid. Diſſertatio de Opera quam præſtant corpora Acida vel Alkalia in curatione morborum.

ſtrong-

ſtrongly maintain'd that this Diſeaſe cometh from *Alkalious Lixivious Salts*, in the Blood, as others have that it comes from Acids: And if a *Chymical Analyſis* of Peoples Blood afflicted with this Diſtemper may be depended on, I am able to prove from divers Experiments (made for my own Satisfaction) that all thoſe Ingredients neceſſary to conſtitute a ſound Blood, have been found in theirs. Nay, moreover I can juſtify that from ſome of theſe inveterate ſtrumous Ulcers, ſo fetid and naſty, that a Man could hardly endure the Stench, the Blood hath iſſued forth as pure and uncorrupted, as tho they had been ſome of the moſt healthful Perſons living. Theſe Fictions of *Alkalions* and *Acid* Humours, ſerve well enough for a time to amuſe and deceive the Vulgar, eaſily ſeduced with ſuch Novelties, but Men of Learning and Enquiry know very well that there are no ſuch Principles to be found in the Parts and Humours of *Animals*, until they have paſſed the Fire. And what ſtrange Alterations and Impreſſions are made by that Element, is obvious to all People experienced in *Chymiſtry*. It's an eaſy Matter to imagine this or that Humour to be the Cauſe of any particular Diſtemper, and to form Methods of Cure upon ſuch Conjectures, but Nature who beſt knoweth her own Wants and Grievances, is not eaſily managed by ſuch Devices. She will be ſerved in her own way, and needeth no other Aſſiſtance for her Preſervation againſt all Aſſaults, but a prudent Application of thoſe Remedies ſhe hath every

every where provided, ſuitable to each Complaint. If Providence had not thus ordered things, what muſt become of the firſt Inhabitants of the World, of thoſe People now living in many Places, who have no Phyſicians, *Philoſophy* nor Medicines, *to heal their Sickneſſes*, but ſuch as are vulgarly known among themſelves, and approved by their own Experience and Obſervation? In antient *Babylon*, great and populous as it was, no Phyſicians were known, nor other Methods for curing Diſtempers, than thoſe gained by every Man's own Experience and Enquiry. *Artem experientia fecit, exemplo monſtrante viam.* Manilius.

For my part, I ſhall never trouble my ſelf much about the Cauſe, what it is, or from whence it comes, ſo long as God hath enabled me to remove it; and I very well remember that when I applied my ſelf to others for Cure, they of all Men had the worſt Succeſs in their Practice upon me, who profeſſed to have a clear and perfect Knowledge of its Origin: their fine Reaſonings, and nice Speculations, after a long Courſe of painful Experiments, ended only in grievous Diſappointments. Diſeaſes are of that hidden and abſtruſe Nature, working out their Effects by ſuch ſecret ways, and ſo remote from human View, that in moſt Caſes the moſt learned Phyſicians have not been able to determine the immediate Cauſe with that Certainty, but that others have as ſtrenuouſly oppoſed it: In this Diſeaſe, particularly, I believe I could cite twenty different Opinions, out of Authors, each of them pe-

peremptorily asserting the Cause and the Cure from their own Hypotheses. And I once knew a young Gentleman with a Swelling under his right Jaw, who miserably expired before the Physicians could agree among themselves whether the Tumour was Scrophulous or not.

True it is, generally speaking, no Disease hath more apparent Indications than this; even the Complection is often a sufficient Sign; but this Rule, like other Generals, is not always without Exception: I knew a young Lady much afflicted with Pains in her Head, attended with great Dimness of Sight, which I suspected to be the *King's Evil*, but her Relations slighting my Judgment, when she was dead her Head being opened, it appear'd that her Brain was in a manner consumed, and the inward Table of her Skull *carious*. I saw likewise a Child opened about 12 or 13 Years of Age, whose Liver and Lights were highly scrophulous, and yet when living she had no outward Signs of any such Distemper. Dr. *Walter Needham* in one of his Lectures in Surgeons Hall, declares, " he had seen a strumous Swelling hanging at " the Cone of the Heart, the Weight of two " Ounces.

But notwithstanding Authors are much divided about the Matter whereof this evil Humour is generated, yet they are all unanimous in this Particular; that its Malignancy, whatever it be, is seated in the Blood and Juices: But if any Regard may be had to the Opinion of a wise

wiſe and great Man, he tells us that in the Difference of Parts there are often found *Cauſes continent of many Diſeaſes*; which Phyſicians not obſerving, *do ſometimes accuſe the Humours* wrongfully, *which are not delinquent, the Fault being in the very mechanick Frame of the Part.* When I labour'd under this Diſeaſe to ſuch a Degree that our Hoſpitals could hardly produce ſuch another deplorable Inſtance; even in thoſe Days, upon opening a Vein (as I frequently did) the ſoundeſt Man could not produce purer and finer Blood than mine was. And whereas it's generally thought that Children have this Diſtemper only by Inheritance: I have known many afflicted therewith, where no *Hereditary Contagion* could reaſonably be ſuppos'd. And many grown Perſons do acquire the *King's-Evil* by external Accidents, *viz. Blows, Bruiſes, Compreſſions, Wrenches of the Hip, Knee, Ancle,* and many other Joints, in whom there was never any ſuch thing as a *Corroſive Acidity* in the firſt *Digeſtion*, nor any thing like it elſewhere. I have ſeen a Woman with two of theſe ſtrumous Swellings, the Bigneſs of a Turkey's Egg, as hard as Flints, under her Jaws, who ſolemnly proteſted to me, that both theſe Swellings came in a Night's Time, that when ſhe went to Bed ſhe was as free of them as any Woman living. 'Hippo-'crates was of the Opinion, That *Air* and 'Spirits are the true Cauſes both of Health 'and Sickneſs, even in preference to the Hu-'mours, which (ſaith he) are only Collateral

Lord Bacon.

'Cauſes, as the Spirits mix with them. In my Opinion, ſome other *Agents* muſt be acceſſary to the Formation of theſe ſcrophulous Tumours, beſides Blood and Juices. And why may we not think that the Animal Spirits (tho' we know not how to define them; and whereof little Notice is taken by Phyſicians) if embarraſs'd, or pent up, may produce Putrefactions in the Parts: and if ſo, till ſuch Time as their good and bad Effects are throughly known, (which perhaps they never will,) there will be one fundamental Deficiency in Phyſick. *Sola Remedia ſanant*, ſaid good old *Celſus*: One good Remedy is preferable to all the Hypotheſes and plauſible Conjectures in the World. And therefore, what Sir *Robert Tabor* ſaid to the *French* King's Phyſicians, when, in a ſcoffing manner, they demanded of him what was the Cauſe of a Fever, I think was very ingenious, and more to the Purpoſe than any other Anſwer whatſoever: *A Fever* (quoth he) *is a Diſeaſe you do not know how to cure, but I do.* Provided we know People's Tempers and Conſtitutions, and thoſe good and bad Symptoms peculiarly incident to each Diſtemper, as alſo which of the *Non-naturals* do us good, and which of them do injury, and have but proper Remedies to apply, we need not, I think, buſie our ſelves much about *Secret Cauſes*. *Paracelſus* boaſted that he had found out the occult Springs of all Diſeaſes, and many immortal Remedies, but died himſelf in his 47*th* Year. Whereas *Hippocrates* and *Galen* are ſaid to have lived beyond an hundred. *Sylirus de le Boe*, another great *Theoriſt*, died

died a young Man, and his Death was owing to his own *Hypotheſis*, believing that the want of *Volatile Alkalious* Medicines occaſioned all Diſtempers and Death, he took ſo great a Quantity of Volatile things, that they ſoon volatized him into the other World. And whatever may be the Cauſe, the Event I believe is true, that while Phyſicians contented themſelves with the good Effects of their Medicines, without farther Enquiries, Mankind enjoyed better Health and lived longer, than ſince the *Art* of Phyſick hath been ſtuffed out with Philoſophical, Mathematical, and many other novel Incumbrances. 'Who can deny (ſaith *Baglivi*, 'p. 318.) that after all the Anatomical and 'Philological Inventions of this Age, we fall 'ſtill ſhort of the more ſolid Indications of 'Cure; and that Phyſicians are now more di-'vided upon the adjuſting of the Morbifick 'Cauſes and Indications of Cure, than they 'were before theſe Rumours of Novelties were 'boxed about, how many learned Diſcourſes 'and fine ſpun *Hypotheſes* are there of *Fevers* 'and *Small Pox*, notwithſtanding People die 'of both in great Numbers, almoſt like rotten 'Sheep. But to proceed,

After I had fully experienced the Excellency and Uſefulneſs of this Medicine, in my own Caſe; I thought my ſelf obliged, in point of Charity, to make it publick; that others, if they pleas'd, might reap the ſame Benefit by it, as, bleſſed be God, I had done. And tho' I do not pretend to make any new Diſcoveries concerning the Cauſe or Production of this Diſeaſe;

yet, I conceive I have ſome reaſon to eſteem my ſelf capable of helping thoſe who at any time ſhall deſire my Aſſiſtance. For, beſides the Knowledge (which God hath bleſſed me with) of this *Specifick Remedy*, I have likewiſe gain'd ſome other Skill from my paſt Sufferings, which I reckon may be very conducive to the Cure of this Diſtemper. I hope, for inſtance, I am able to give a ſatisfactory Account, what Tumours are ſcrophulous, and what are not. I know as well the Temper and Conſtitution of People afflicted with the *Evil* as I did my own, and can eaſily tell when they will ſuffer Pain, and when not; when their Sores will run little or much; at what Seaſons their Swellings will riſe or fall; and when they will break; and the like. Of theſe things I have given a ſatisfactory Account, as divers People will bear me witneſs. Phyſick (as a certain Author hath long ſince obſerved) doth always profeſs to have Experience for the Proof of its Operations. And it was *Plato*'s Opinion, that in order to be a true Phyſician, a Man ſhould firſt ſuffer all thoſe Diſeaſes he pretended to cure, and paſs thro' all thoſe Accidents and Circumſtances he was to judge of in others. This, I muſt confeſs, is a ſevere Poſition; and if no Man were to practiſe but upon theſe Conditions, I fancy Phyſick would have but few Profeſſors; tho', doubtleſs, the beſt Knowledge is ever gain'd by a Man's own Experience and Obſervation, which, as *Celſus* obſerves, *is the principal Thing to inform*

Montague's *Eſſays.*

Aphr. 10. Sect. 9.

form Men in a right Method of Cure.

'Of all ſorts of Inſtructions '(ſaith Sir *William Temple*) the 'beſt are gained from our own 'Thoughts and Experiences; for tho' a Man 'may grow learned by other Mens Thoughts, 'yet he will become wiſe or happy only by his 'own. Thoſe Remarks and Obſervations which I made of things hurtful and beneficial to me in the way of Living, afforded me much better Light toward my Cure, than all the Inſtructions I had ſeen in Phyſical Authors; Diet, for inſtance, was a thing from whence I received conſiderable Benefit. A Part of Phyſick of that Importance, that *Hippocrates*, and all other Phyſicians, do teſtifie a very great Regard unto it, as a principal thing conducive to the Cure of moſt Diſeaſes. And herein I think my ſelf not unqualified, to give thoſe neceſſary Directions, which, if obſerv'd, would prove of very great Uſe and Service to Perſons afflicted with this *Evil Humour*: Good Management, in this reſpect, I find, (tho' it will not abſolutely cure this Diſeaſe) is highly Uſeful, and very Efficacious, to aid and aſſiſt, and to give an Energy to the Operation of proper Medicines. Another thing, which, by my own Experience, I found to have a commanding Power in this Diſtemper, in giving Pain or Eaſe, was the Quality or Diſpoſition of the *Air*: Wherein I was ſo critical

Miſcel. *p.* 103.

The Uſefulneſs of Diet.

Hipp. de Diæta.

And of Air.

in my Obſervations, that upon the leaſt Turn or Change of the Weather, I knew as well what I was to expect, as if a Meſſenger beforehand had given me Warning. And whoſoever undertakes the curing of this Diſeaſe, will find ſuch Natural Obſervations of great Uſe, not only to direct him in the Cure, but alſo to prevent Perturbations of Mind, in thoſe who labour under this Diſtemper, ariſing from its Ebbings and Flowings, which, indeed, are very ſudden and ſurprizing. If any one thinks theſe and ſuch-like Obſervations are Trifles, let him enjoy his Opinion: In the mean time, it's my Judgment, whoever careleſly neglects theſe things, will have no great Succeſs with this Diſtemper. The divine *Hippocrates* hath in ſeveral of his Aphoriſms, fully ſhewed the Uſefulneſs of ſuch Obſervations, to direct Men in their Methods of curing Diſeaſes. *Change of Seaſons are the moſt effectual Cauſes of Diſeaſes, and ſo are the Alterations of Cold and Heat in thoſe Seaſons, and other things proportionable. The South Wind dulls the Hearing, obſcures and darkens the Sight, offends the Head with Aches and Rheums, cauſes Heavineſs and Faintneſs. When therefore it is frequent and powerful, ſuch Accidents are incident to the weak and ſickly. On the contrary, the North Wind cauſes Coughs, ſore Throats, hard Bellies, Difficulties in making Water, Pains of the Sides and Breaſts; therefore when this Wind prevails, thoſe that are weak and feeble*

Hip. Aphor. Sect. 3. *p.* 44.

Aphor. 5. Sect. 3. *p.* 47.

feeble muſt look for ſuch Accidents. If diſtemper'd People obſerved theſe things, they would not blame their Phyſicians in many things, when the Cauſe is purely owing to the Weather. Neither would others upon every little Indiſpoſition, ſubject themſelves to Phyſick and Phlebotomy, when a contrary Poſition of the *Air* would ſet them right. The ingenious Dr. *Wainewright*, in his Book of *Non-naturals*, hath clearly demonſtrated what great Alterations are made in our Bodies, according to the various Changes of the *Air*; affirming that from ſuch Notices, better Indications may be taken both for the Prevention and Cure of moſt Diſeaſes, than from any other *Source* whatſoever. *The Animal Oeconomy* (ſaith a late ingenious Author, with great Truth) *is it ſelf a conſiderable Part of Natural Philoſophy, and our Bodies are ſo ſtrongly influenced by Variety of* Diets, *and ſo many other things without, that, indeed, the whole Study of Nature ſeems to be uſeful to him that would underſtand it.* *Herodotus*, an antient Author, tells us, that in *Egypt* Phyſicians were obliged to apply themſelves to the Study and Improvement of but ſome one Diſeaſe. *Every Phyſician*, ſaith he, *hath one Diſeaſe for his Province, and no more*, &c. The Deſign whereof, doubtleſs, was very good, and of great Uſe to the Republick of Phyſick: Becauſe hereby Phyſicians acquir'd a more certain and perfect Know-

Pag. 65.

Dr. Keil *of Animal Secretion.*

Lib. 2. Sect. 82.

Knowledge of the Nature and Diſpoſition of particular Diſeaſes, and of things hurtful and beneficial in each Diſtemper; and conſequently, were better able to fence againſt all ill Accidents and Revolutions ariſing from the various Changes of the Weather, or improper Diets, and many evil Habits, whereunto each Diſeaſe hath a direct Tendency. The Works of thoſe very great Men, Dr. *Sydenham* and Dr. *R. Morton*, are undeniable Inſtances of the Advantages the World might enjoy from the Phyſician's more eſpecial Application of his Thoughts and Studies to the Nature and Cure of ſome one particular Diſeaſe. The noble Improvements they arrived at in this Way, the one with reſpect to *Fevers*, and the other to *Conſumptions*, makes one juſtly wonder, among ſo many Ingenious and Learned Men of that Profeſſion, there have been ſo few who have attempted to follow their Steps in other Caſes.

The Divine *Hippocrates* formed his Practice from Experience and Obſervation on particular Diſeaſes. *To underſtand the Art of Phyſick is to know throughly the peculiar Conſtitution of every Seaſon, what there is generally good and bad in each Man's Diſtemper, the State and* Criſis *of every Diſeaſe, to whom, when and how, Victuals muſt be given. He that knows and makes a right Uſe of theſe things, cannot be miſtaken in the Art of Healing.* To the ſame purpoſe ſpeaketh *Cornelius Celſus*; *Neither ought the Phyſician to be ignorant of the Nature and Conſtitution of the Patient,*

3 Epid. 3. *p.* 156.

Aphor. 13. *p.* 236.

tient, whether his Body be moist or dry, whether strong or infirm, whether seldom or often sick, &c.

As I judged these no improper Qualifications for one who undertook to help others, so, blessed be God, I have met with an answerable Success. As I treat others as I did my self, so I find the very same common Effects. Their Sores run with the same Flux of Matter upon taking this *Specifick Remedy* as mine did. I have a Box of Scales and foul Bones, the largest that ever were seen, driven out by this Anti-Strumatick Liquor. Their *Urine* likewise I have frequently observed as thick and ropy as my own used to be; and tho' they were never so Weak and Lame, yet I always find their Strength daily increasing, as mine did. It's a common complaint among those who have taken Diet Drinks, made of *Guaiacum*, *Sarsaphras Mizerion*, and the like, for any Time; that these Remedies spoil their Stomachs, and burn them up with Feverish Heats: But this *Specifick* hath quite contrary Effects, wonderfully invigorating the *Spirits*, preserving the Appetite, and restoring it when Lost; and is of that *mundifying, healing, drying Quality*, that some inveterate Ulcers have been Cured therewith by an outward Application only. For sore, weak, and enflamed Eyes, or where the Sight is obstructed with *Mists*, *Clouds*, *Films*, and *Pearls*, there is no better Ophthalmick in the World. Neither did I ever know this Humour

The same Effects generally common to all other People.

mour break out afreſh upon any Perſon cur'd by this Method, no more than it hath done with me theſe 20 Years paſt; the Truth whereof I can make appear by a Cloud of Witneſſes, from their own Experience.

So far as I am able to judge from the large Experience I have had, firſt on my ſelf, and now upon others, one of the greateſt Difficulties in making a compleat Cure of this Diſtemper in moſt People, with this Method, is Length of Time, which many have not Patience to ſubmit unto, not conſidering the Stubbornneſs of this Diſeaſe, above all others; that Nature being brought very low, and worn out, in a manner, with the long Duration of the Illneſs, together with the emaciating Methods in common Uſe, cannot ſo ſoon accompliſh the Concoction and Deſpumation of the Morbifick Matter, as they could wiſh: This tempts them to try other Medicines, but with ſo little Advantage, that they oftentimes run themſelves into greater Evils; according to that Obſervation, long ſince deliver'd by the Lord *Bacon*, *That as Variety of Medicines is the Off-ſpring of Ignorance, ſo many Medicines have cauſed few Cures.* To which Obſervation, I may add another of equal Truth, that the moſt authentick Evidences of a Man curing this or any other Diſeaſe, are not ſufficient to ſatisfie ſome People prepoſſeſs'd with Prejudices; ſo that if a Man were morally certain of Curing any one Diſtemper, yet he would find it a difficult Point to convince ſome, tho' he produc'd

Natur. Hiſt. of Life and Death.

an

an hundred Inſtances of his Succeſs. And the reaſon may be this, becauſe Phyſicians, and thoſe depending on them, have in all Places ſo bitterly run down Perſons and Things excluſive of their own Knowledge and Practice, that People think there's no *Balm in Gilead* but what's in their Hands. And yet Phyſicians have acknowledg'd that the *Art* of Healing was originally derived from ſuch Experiments as were not all made by Phyſicians. Nay ſometimes (ſay they) the Fowls of the *Air* and the Beaſts of the Field, have by the Exerciſe of their natural Inſtincts directed conſidering Men to ſuch Medicines, as without ſuch Indications perhaps their Reaſon and Skill would never have brought to light. Nor is it *Phyſick* alone, but many other *Arts* and *Sciences*, that have received conſiderable Improvements from ſuch who were not directly Profeſſors thereof; ſo that I think there is no reaſon to charge my Pretenſions with Novelty or Singularity, unleſs I were of the number of thoſe vain-glorious Boaſters, who aſſume all Knowledge to themſelves, aſſerting nothing leſs than perfect and abſolute Cures in all Caſes whatſoever. But this I utterly diſclaim, and ſhould be aſham'd of; very well remembring, that when I was ſeeking Help for my ſelf, I never met with greater Diſappointments, than from infallible Pretenders. Such Perſons who offer perfect and infallible Cures, would do well to conſider the Modeſty of that Ingenious and Learned Artiſt, Mr. Serjeant *Wiſeman*, who, perhaps, knew

Hiſt. of Phyſ. pag. 4.

knew as much of this Diſeaſe, and likewiſe took as much Pains to bring the Cure thereof to ſome Perfection, as any Man whatever, either before or ſince his Time; yet he, like an honeſt Man, after Thirty or Forty Years Practice, hath declar'd, that the *Contumaciouſneſs of this Diſeaſe had not only eluded his beſt Care and Induſtry, but alſo ſome of the ableſt Phyſicians and Surgeons in his time.* Even *Hippocrates* himſelf was ſo far from pretending to Perfection or Infallibility in his Art, that he begins his Aphoriſms with theſe modeſt Maxims: *Life is ſhort, the Art long, Occaſion ſudden, to make Experiments dangerous, Judgment difficult,* &c. And accordingly he hath left it as a Precept to all his Followers, that they ought not to warrant the Succeſs of a Medicine, becauſe, ſaith he, the *minuteſt Circumſtance may cauſe a Diſtemper to vary, and conſequently to become much more tedious and dangerous than Men expected.* In my own Experience I have known one of theſe ſcrophulous Sores not exceeding the compaſs of a Silver Penny, longer and more vexatious in the Cure than an old inveterate Ulcer, the breadth of an Hand; in which Caſes it ſometimes alſo falleth out that a trifling Accident puts a Period to Life, where they have been very promiſing Hopes and Expectations of Succeſs. Cauſes and Conſtitutions (ſaith *Celſus*) are ſo various, that we looſe our ſelves ſome times in thoſe very Accidents, whereof we ſeem to have the greateſt Certainty and Experience; and therefore Confidence and Preſumption in the

Lib. 2. p. 239.

Art

Art of Phyſick, are the true Characteriſticks of *Quacks*, and Medical Impoſtors. It's therefore in my Opinion too great a Preſumption to call any Method or Medicine a Perfect or Abſolute Cure for any Diſtemper whatſoever, becauſe the beſt approved Judgment and Practice doth ſometimes meet with Defeats. The Monument in *Weſtminſter Abby*, of the Young Lady holding up her Finger prickt with a Needle, whereof ſhe died, is a convincing Inſtance that trifling Accidents may prove Mortal. Such alſo was the Misfortune of a young Gentleman not long ſince, who riding gently on the Road ſtroaking the Buſhes with his Hand, run a Thorn into one of his Fingers, whereby he bled to Death in a very few Days, notwithſtanding he had the beſt Help and Aſſiſtance to ſave his Life that Money or Friends could procure. How many of thoſe ſort of Men, who make great Pretenſions to perfect and abſolute Cures, did the Honourable Mr. *Herbert*, the Duke of *Leeds*'s Grandſon; and likewiſe Mr. *James Boddington*, an eminent *Turkey* Merchant's Son in *Little* St. *Helens*, make Trial of, but both of them miſerably expir'd (as it were) in defiance to their infallible *Secrets*. My Pretenſions are only thus, that whereas I had this Diſtemper in a very high Degree, and have, with God's Bleſſing, been my ſelf cured by this Remedy, and many others have received undeniable Benefit thereby; I ſhall honeſtly apply the ſame Means to any Perſon, leaving the Succeſs to Almighty God. With this farther Teſtimony, for

all Peoples Satisfaction, that if this *Specifick Remedy* ſhould not cure them, it will certainly do them no hurt. Not one of thoſe many Hundreds that have taken of it, having ever complain'd of the leaſt Injury attending its Uſe.

Thus, Sir, I have given you a ſhort Account of what I have done for my ſelf with this *Specifick Remedy*, and likewiſe how ſucceſsful others have found it. I confeſs, when I reſolv'd, firſt of all, to make it known unto the World, I found ſome difficulty to perſuade my ſelf to yield to its Publication in the Prints; but as I ſaw that was in a manner neceſſary, ſo I have this Comfort and Satisfaction againſt all Cenſures and Reflections upon that Account; that, by ſo doing I have had the Opportunity of curing ſome Scores of Peoples, who might have rotted alive, had it not been for thoſe Advertiſements. Some, I am ſure, who once thought me unworthy of their Notice, have by that Means, ſought my Aſſiſtance, and found it effectual. And tho' this Way of publiſhing Medicines and Cures, is now eſteemed *Quackiſm*, yet by the Hiſtory of Phyſick, it appears, if the Ancients could have had the ſame Convenience they would have done the like: *For, whoſoever had gain'd any Experience on himſelf or others,* ſaith *Herodotus, made it Publick.* And again, it was the Cuſtom, ſaith the ſame Author, *to carry their Sick and Diſeaſed into the Markets, that all People, paſſing by, might give their Advice, and encourage others to try what themſelves and others had, in the like Caſe, uſed with Succeſs.*

Lib. 2. 6.

But

But whatever may be thought of this, ſurely a Deſign ſo compaſſionate, as to deliver Mankind from one of the greateſt corporal Evils that can befal them, needs no Apology, nor Excuſe; for this, I have the Senſe of the ingenious Dr. *Wainewright*, in his Treatiſe of *Non Naturals*. *To attempt any thing*, ſaith he, *for the Improvement of uſeful Arts, eſpecially, that of Medicine, which is of the greateſt Benefit to Mankind, is a Debt which every capable Perſon owes to the Publick.* I hope no good Man will revile me then upon this Account: And, as for others, it's to me no great Matter, what they ſay. Succeſs ſurmounteth all Difficulties, and the bittereſt Invectives that Malice or Envy can ſuggeſt, will, in the End, avail nothing, where the Efficacy of a Remedy becomes indiſputable. I know, indeed, from my own Experience, that ſome are of that venemous Temper, that where Matters of Fact are as clear as the Sun at Noonday, where no Provocation, nor the leaſt Cauſe of Offence is given, yet they will not forbear poiſoning the Minds of People with baſe and unworthy Inſinuations. But I look upon ſuch Efforts to proceed from ſome inward Convictions ſuch Men have, that it's eaſier for them to attempt the ſupporting their own Credit and Eſteem, by leſſening of others, than by any real Worth or Merit of their own: Such invidious Calumniators do not deſerve regard; however I'll beg your Patience, while I gratifie two or three of them ſo far, as to take ſome Notice of their Objections.

V. D. Turner's *remarkable Case in Surgery.*

One thinks to ſlur this my *Specifick*, by exclaiming againſt all Medicines of that Nature; ſtyling them *Subterfuges* of Ignorance, *&c.* I leave him to the Mercy of the whole College, who muſt either pronounce him a meer *Ignoramus*, or elſe diſclaim the *Jeſuits-Bark*, and all other *Specificks*. It's natural for mean and abject Spirits to envy other Men's Proſperity and Succeſs. And therefore, to uſe his own Expreſſion, I ſhall not confute him *any other Way, than by* (*what he really deſerves*) *Slight and Contempt.*

Ferne's *Preface to the* King's Evil *perfectly cur'd.*

Another inſinuates, that I am no Surgeon, *therefore how I ſhould do any Good upon ſo unaccountable a Malady, is what he does not underſtand, and wonders at.* Now, it's natural to expect, that the leaſt Underſtanders ſhould be the greateſt Wonderers. If this Man's Underſtanding be ſhort, that's not my Fault: However for once, I'll do him the Favour to ſhew him that he underſtands more than he is aware of; provided he underſtands what is to be found Page the 20th of the Book ſet out in his Name; for if it be true, that "*What Artiſt ſoever can perfectly rectifie the* "*vicious Acidity of the firſt Digeſtion, muſt neceſſa-*" *rily cure this Diſtemper, in Courſe; and as na-*" *turally accompliſh the Work, and with as much* " *Truth too, as it is to take away the Effects by* " *removing the Cauſe*; I think he muſt underſtand, (I am ſure every Body elſe will) that there is not, then, any abſolute Neceſſity of

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Manual Operation. Indeed ſo far from that, that I will venture to ſay that *Manual* Operation in this Caſe, will not exfoliate foul and carious Bones, without the help and aſſiſtance of ſuch internal Remedies, as diſpoſeth Nature to a ſpeedy Separation. Whoever knoweth any thing of the Writings of the ancient Practitioners in *Phyſick* and *Surgery*, cannot but be ſenſible, that in all ſuch Caſes their firſt and chiefeſt Applications were *Vulnerary Potions.* And even the Modern Practice will confirm what I have aſſerted, that the perfect Cure of this Diſeaſe, moſt properly and eſpecially dependeth on inward Means, *for the removing the Cauſe, that the Effect may ceaſe.* "Strumæ (ſaith *Cornelius Celſus*) have always "given much Trouble to *Surgeons*, becauſe "(ſaith he) after the beſt Care and Me"thods have been applied for their Extirpa"tion, they are found to gain a new Birth on my ſelf, and likewiſe on divers other People. I have known theſe Tumours laid open by *Inciſion*, and the Glands quite conſumed with *Eſcharoticks*; and afterwards the evil Humour hath broken out afreſh, with greater Violence elſewhere. And thus much I have heard ſeveral Old, Able and Experienced *Surgeons* declare, that they never got any Credit in meddling with this Diſtemper. And therefore reckoned it no real Injury to their Practice, for any Perſon whatſoever to free them from that Trouble.

If I thought this doughty Author knew any thing of Mr. *Boyle*, I could tell him, that it was

that Gentleman's Opinion, that inward Remedies might be found out able to effect Chirurgical Cures; whereof he hath given us many extraordinary Inſtances in divers Caſes. And I could likewiſe refer him to the learned *Bartholinus*'s Obſervations, who, tho' a Surgeon, is yet on my Side: As alſo, to the learned and ingenious *Paul Barbette*, M. D. who declares *this Diſtemper curable by internal Remedies that have appropriated Qualities for curing the* King's Evil. *I remember* (ſaith *Gulielmus Piſo*, in his Account of thoſe great Things which he ſaw done in Surgery by the Illiterate *Indians*) *that the Limbs of* Dutch *and* Portugal *Soldiers wounded with Gunſhot, were happily cured with their recent Juices, Gums and Balſams, without Knife or Cauteries.* But few People apply themſelves to me, who have not undergone all thoſe Chirurgical Operations applicable in this Diſeaſe, twice or thrice over; ſo that what Reaſon have I to trouble them afreſh with thoſe things, wherein they have, for many Years, found ſo little Benefit; and eſpecially ſo long as I am able to do the Buſineſs by gentle-Methods? For the Truth whereof, I appeal to ſome of Mr. *Ferne*'s own Patients, who have been under my Care, and have through God's Bleſſing been PERFECTLY cured by me. For my Part, I reckon it a great Happineſs, that, in this Caſe, I can help others, without inflicting thoſe Torments of cutting, cauterizing, and the like: The Conſequences whereof, one of the greateſt Surgeons we have had, long ſince declar'd, were more fatal

Page 114.

and

and dangerous than the Diſeaſe itſelf. I ſpeak not this to prejudice People in other Caſes againſt Surgery, but in this, I never knew Manual Operation do any Service. But I will, for the preſent, diſmiſs this Man, after I have noted one Diſcovery that he hath obliged the World with, well worthy himſelf: It is in his firſt Chapter, where in his learned Account of the *Greek* and *Latin* Names of this Diſeaſe, and their Etymology, *p.* 6. he ſlides in this curious Remark, that a *Little Pig cometh of an Old Sow.* Now, that a Pig cometh of a Sow, moſt People know; but that it muſt be from an *Old* Sow, is what neither the Etymology of the Word, nor the Nature of the Thing, requires. For the firſt, *Goldman's* Dictionary, if he knows ſuch a Book, would have given ſufficient Satisfaction. As for the latter, how unskilful ſoever old Wives may be in Medicine, yet I doubt not but they *Pref.* could have ſet him right in this *Phænomenon.* Tho' this Man deſpiſeth *Old Wives Medicines,* I can aſſure him the famous Doctor *Willis* thought himſelf beholden to an old Woman for curing him of a violent Bleeding at the Noſe, which, at times, had troubled him many Years, whereof he could never free himſelf, until ſhe, accidentally coming into the Room where he was bleeding, told him the Medicine; which, to my Remembrance, was one ſingle Plant. But to paſs by this Man's Contempt of old Wives Medicines; I wonder, the Reverend Mr. *Gaynam,* a Schoolmaſter, was not more correct in this Author's Orthography, than to

ſuf-

ſuffice him to print *Alkalions* for *Alkalions Medicines*. Surely, neither of them very well underſtood the Derivation of the Word *Alkali*, which, in Chymiſtry, ſignifies a fixed Salt taken from the Herb *Kali*. *Heſychius* would have ſet them right in this Matter, tho' (by the way) he is no Phyſical Author, (as theſe Men ignorantly ſuppoſe;) but one of our ancient Lexicographers.

The laſt Perſon to whom I muſt pay my Obligations, is, indeed, a Man of Learning and Judgment; and he thinks, it's Objection enough that I am a *Quack*.

I do not know what Provocation I have given him, (unleſs the Hardneſs of his Patients almoſt blind of both Eyes, with the *Evil*) and therefore ſince he hath given himſelf the trouble to unravel *the Springs of ſome abſtruſe Phænomena* in the Medical *Science*, I would beg the Favour of him, that, at his leiſure, he would oblige the World with a Diſquiſition, whether the Foundation of Phyſick was not firſt laid in *Empericiſm*. I know, indeed, the Rationaliſts have, at all Adventures, chang'd the Emperical Tribe with Ignorance, Unskilfulneſs, and the like; But yet, with me, it ſeems a Queſtion, whether it be not manifeſt, that more uſeful Remedies have been brought to Light by them, than all the Productions of Learning and Philoſophy amount unto. Excepting ſome Chymical Remedies, the whole Body of the *Materia Medica*, now in uſe, is chiefly owing to *Empericks*: And if we enquire into the Art of Healing by *Surgery*, we ſhall find moſt

of

of their topical Remedies introduc'd by the very ſame Men. As an unqueſtionable Proof of theſe things, let any one compare all thoſe *Recipes*, Simple and Compound, which the celebrated Authors of this Age have publiſh'd as the Fruits of their own Inventions, with the old (tho' illiterate) Writers of *Pharmacy* and *Surgery*, and he will be convinced that the Labours of the one are manifeſt Tranſcriptions of the other. The Rationaliſts (as they ſtile themſelves by way of Eminency and Diſtinction) have, indeed, varniſhed their *Plagiaries*, with many cunningly deviſed Hypotheſes and Speculations (which have chang'd like our Faſhions) but they have not found out, by their own Art, any one Remedy, for the Cure of any particular Diſtemper, but what was very well known to the World long before their Days. What new Light or Profit (for Inſtance) hath the Author of the Mechanical Account of Poiſons, with his Geometrical Ratiocinations brought to the Republick of *Phyſick* or *Surgery*; hath he told us any Thing more of the Nature of thoſe *Venoms*, than what is commonly found in moſt Authors? Hath his Mathematical Genius diſcovered any new *Remedy* or Antidote, for the Cure of thoſe Miſchiefs, to ſecure Mankind hereafter from periſhing by any ſuch *Venoms*. After all his Labour and Pains in tracing all thoſe ſurprizing Symptoms, down to their firſt and immediate Cauſes; I dare engage, he will never try the like Experiments of Viperine Poiſons upon himſelf, as that poor Indian did he ſpeaks of, *pag.* 11. of his Eſſays. *Celſus*, a

Wiſe

Wiſe Man, as well as a Phyſician (ſpeaking of the Emperical Sect) hath long ſince acknowledg'd, *that Medicines and Cures were firſt found out, and afterwards the Reaſons and Cauſes diſcover'd; not the other Way, that the Cauſes firſt extracted from the Nature of Things, gave light to the Invention of Remedies* *.

De re medica.

It was not *Speculative Philoſophy* and fine ſpun *Hypotheſes*, but *Experience* and *Obſervation*, that taught us the Uſe of *Remedies*, ſaith that excellent Phyſician Dr. *Thomas Fuller*.

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* *They who diſcourſe of the firſt* Inventors of Things, *and the* Original of Sciences, *have celebrated rather* Chance *than* Art, *and have brought in* Beaſts, Birds, Fiſhes, Serpents, *rather than* Men, *as the firſt Doctors of* Sciences.

Dictamnum genetrix Cretæa carpit ab ida,
Puberibus caulem foliis & flore comantem,
Purpureo non illa feris incognita capris,
Gramina cum tergo volucres hæſere ſagittæ.

Virg. Æn. 12.

The Egyptians, an antient Nation, to whom many Arts *owe their firſt Beginnings, had their Temples full of the Idols of Brutes, but almoſt empty of the Idols of Men.*

Omni genumq; deûm monſtra & latrator anubis
Contra Neptunum & Venerem contraq; Minervam,

Virg. Æn. 8. &c.

The

The Honourable Esquire *Boyle* frankly acknowledgeth, that in all those Places where there is least Learning, there the most and best *Specificks* have been found out, because (saith he) such Persons having no other Knowledge of Medicine, than what the Light of Nature helpeth them to, have, thereby, brought to light several Remedies, which Nations of greater Learning and Politeness are wholly ignorant of. The Men of Medicine in the *East* and *West Indies*, are meer *Quacks*, be sure, to our *English* Physicians. And yet *Linchoten* for the one, and *Lawson* for the other, assures us, that they not only cure their own Country-men, but ours too. Now to take no more than these Premisses; I think there seems some Reason to infer from them, that extraordinary Remedies are not always (if they are ever) the Fruits and Effects of extraordinary Learning, much less of being graduated in a Profession. And therefore, till this Matter is better clear'd up, I cannot be of Opinion, that a Man's being call'd a *Quack* by a *M. D.* is a just Objection against his Ability of Curing any particular Distemper. The Honourable Esquire *Boyle*, the Reverend Mr. *John Ray*, and some others, tho no profess'd Physicians or Surgeons, have, by their Writings, done great Service to both. And therefore, what Mr. *Thomas Ferne* foolishly suggesteth, is false, *viz.* that the Knowledge of either of these Sciences is above the *Sphere*

Voyage, Chap. 34. Lawson's *Voyage thro'* North Carolina.

Preface to the King's Evil *perfectly cur'd.*

of other Mens Capacities, as to *internal Remedies*, and beyond their Reach as to *manual Operation*. Dr. *Wagſtaff*, a Divine in this City, and the Reverend Mr. *Manſell* of *Northamptonſhire*, the one for Phyſick, and the other for Surgery, have given full Proof of their great Abilities and Succeſs in each; not to mention ſome others of the Clergy in the Country, who, to the great Comfort and Satisfaction of their poor indigent Neighbours, practiſe both: Therein following the Example of their Bleſſed Maſter; who, tho' he made the Soul the peculiar Object of his Heavenly Doctrine, yet did not neglect the Diſeaſe and Infirmities of Mens Bodies. And they who conſider the great Influence which the various Diſpoſitions of our Bodies have over the Qualities and Operations of the Mind, will ſoon be convinc'd, that 'tis very fit a Man ſhould underſtand natural, as well as moral Cauſes and Effects, and join Divinity and Phyſick together. *We lay this down for a certain Maxim*, (ſaith the divine *Hippocrates*) *that Diſeaſes of the Body will hardly be conquer'd by any Medicines, unleſs the Mind be in a State of Tranquillity, and gain the Aſcendant over the Paſſions; that ſo the turbulent Spirits may recover their primitive Harmony and Repoſe.*

But not to detain you, Sir, any longer with theſe trifling Bickerings; as I envy no Man's Learning, Titles or Abilities, ſo I take all poſſible Care to make no Man angry or uneaſie at the Good God has enabled me to do; refuſing all Patients ſo long as they are under the Care of others, whether Phyſicians or Surgeons,

geons, and ſhould be glad to hear they meet with better Succeſs elſewhere.

That great Artiſt I before ſpoke of, is of Opinion, that moſt of thoſe Diſeaſes mentioned in his Chirurgical Treatiſe, do participate of the *Evil*: I know not whether one might entirely ſubſcribe to that great Man's Judgment in the Matter; but this, I believe, muſt be allowed, that, with us, very few Families are wholly clear of it; ſo that it's to be fear'd, there will be Work enough for all. I know not what Reaſon ſome Authors have to alledge, that aged People are rarely troubled with this Diſtemper. I have known ſeveral upwards of *Fifty*, *Sixty*, and *Seventy* Years of Age break out in ſeveral Places, particularly a Woman whom I cured upwards of Sixty, who declared to me, that ſhe had been always free from any ſuch Complaint, till ſhe was Fifty Five, or thereabout. It is a Diſeaſe which ſpareth neither Peer nor Peaſant of any Age or Sex whatſoever. "*This Diſtemper through* "*length of Time*, as the Learned *Barbette*, M. "D. and Mr. Serjeant *Brown* have obſerv'd, *be-* "*cometh Cancerous*; And I have known ſeveral of theſe Tumours in Womens Breaſts, tho' ſmall at firſt, degenerate into Cancerous Ulcers. Some Authors affirm, the ſame Remedies which heal the one, will alſo cure the other.

Mr. Serjeant Wiſeman.

But however, the Diſtemper is of that malignant and miſchievous Nature, to our Bodies, that whoever can propoſe a ſafe and eaſie Method of curing or preventing it, one might

well expect ſhould be look'd upon as an eſpecial Benefactor to Mankind; for where it doth not deſtroy Life, it often diſableth People (the whole Courſe of their Lives) from enjoying themſelves or others, with any Comfort or Satisfaction, as may be ſeen by many deplorable Inſtances, among both Sexes, groaning under the Torments of this cruciating Tyrant. So that where a Man's Services are manifeſt and indiſputable, either in giving Freedom or Relief from ſo great an *Evil*, he might reaſonably hope to merit the Good-Will and Encouragement of all Mankind. For my Part, if it were in my Power which to chooſe, I would much rather beg my Bread all the Days of my Life with that Portion of Health I now enjoy, than endure my former Afflictions with the Wealth of the *Indies*. Health is ſo great a Bleſſing, that all other Pleaſures of Honour and Fortune are vain, taſtleſs, and even Dead without it: If therefore by any Means, we can attain this neceſſary Comfort of Life, it's no great Matter (I think) who the Perſons are (next under God) of conveying this Bleſſing to us. Where the Means are ſafe, and warranted with unqueſtionable Proofs of Succeſs, all other Exceptions are frivolous and trifling: And yet there are Thouſands of *Naaman*'s Opinion, who will chooſe to ſuffer any Evil, rather than be convinced, that there can be ſo much Healing in the *Waters* of *Jordan*.

Sherburn-Lane; *near the General Poſt-Office*, Lombard-ſtreet.

I am, Sir,

Yours.

B

A

Specimen of Succeſs:

IN A

Faithful Relation

Of many Extraordinary

CURES

ON

Men, Women and Children

Afflicted with the

King's-Evil,

Since *October*, 1706.

The beſt Teſtimonials of a Phyſicians Judgment and Succeſs are his Cures. Cornelius Celſus.

London: Printed for *S. Manſhip* at the Sign of the *Ship*, againſt the *Royal Exchange*. And *A. Collins* at the *Black-Boy*, againſt St. *Dunſtan's* Church, *Fleet-ſtreet*, 1711.

THat the Names and Habitations of ſome Perſons are not ſet down in the following Account of CURES, the Reader muſt not wonder; becauſe I find Perſons of Subſtance and Figure, are not willing it ſhould be known that they have had this Diſtemper, leſt it ſhould prejudice their Families; And even ſome of the numerous Poor whom I have cured *Gratis*, have ſeem'd very unwilling to expoſe themſelves in Print. But I do declare in the moſt ſolemn Manner, that theſe are no cunningly deviſed Fables, but moſt certain Matters of Fact, and Real Truths. And if any Perſon of Worth and Diſtinction deſireth farther Satisfaction in any of the Particulars, I will endeavour to obtain a private perſonal Atteſtation either of the Patients themſelves, or ſome reputable Perſon to whom the Thing is well known; or at leaſt refer to ſome other Cure (not mentioned here) which may, in ſome Meaſure, be Tantamount.

Specimen

Specimen of Succeſs, &c.

The CASE *of* Charles Welſh.

IT pleaſed God in the Iſland of *Jerſey*, after the Small Pox there, to afflict me in a grievous Manner with the *King's-Evil*; firſt, with a deep and large Ulcer in my Breaſt, then with two others on my right Arm; after theſe followed five more on my left Shoulder; and laſtly five others on my left Arm; whereby I was depriv'd of the Uſe of both Arms, being alſo ſo extream weak and lame, that I could neither go nor help my ſelf. I had all the Advice and Medicines that was there poſſible, particularly was under a Courſe of Salivation ſeven Weeks; but theſe Things having no Effect upon me, I was remov'd thence into St. *Thomas's* Hoſpital, where I continu'd ſeveral Months; but not meeting with that Succeſs in this Place neither, which many others have reaped; and being diſcharged, I was by my Friends then brought to Mr. *Vickers's*, a Clergyman, in *Sherburn-lane*; who, beyond his own, and all other People's Expectations, hath (God be praiſed) wrought a perfect and compleat Cure on me, being now as ſound and healthy as any other Perſon whatever. I lodge at a Shoe-maker's, next Door to the Croſs-keys Inn, *Grace-Church-*

ſtreet, where may be ſeen much more of this Cure than is here related, by

Nov. 26. 1706. *Charles Welſh.*

SIR,

YOur great Succeſs in curing my Cancerous Breaſt, hath encouraged a neighbouring Gentlewoman in theſe Parts, much afflicted with the ſame Humour, and much after the ſame manner as I was, to try your Medicines; which you are deſired to ſend down by the next Return of our Carrier. I pray that ſhe may reap the ſame Benefit as I did, having, (God be praiſed) continued ever ſince in good Health. From your moſt obliged, and humble Servant,

Yeowel, January 6th, 1707. *Jane Forbes.*

WHereas I *Mary Forbes*, being ſo grievouſly afflicted with the Evil in my Arms, Legs and Feet, that I could neither go nor ſtand without Crutches, and applying my ſelf to Mr. *Vickers*, a Clergy-man in *Sherburn-lane*, was, by God's Bleſſing, and his Medicines, perfectly freed from that Diſtemper: This Cure will be teſtified by my Relations, Neighbours, and ſelf, before any Perſon, whenſoever Mr. *Vickers* ſhall require it.

Mary Forbes.

March 19. 1706.

I *John Silks*, at the Olive-tree in the *Minories*, having a Child extreamly afflicted with the *King's-Evil*, do hereby own and declare, That the ſaid Child was perfectly cured, through the Bleſſing of God, by the Reverend Mr. *Vickers*, living in *Sherburn-lane* near *Lombard-ſtreet*.

William Hirrup, who was ſo extremely afflicted with the *King's-Evil* in his Eyes, that the Sight of both were almoſt loſt, was in a few Months cur'd by Mr. *Vickers*, a Clergyman, living in *Sherburn-lane* near *Lombard-ſtreet*. The ſaid *William Hirrup* liveth at a Chandler's Shop, near the Three-Tun Alehouſe on *Little Tower-hill*, going into *Eaſt Smithfield*.

SIR,

THE Impoſtume in the Head of your poor Patient, *Sarah Green*, did break laſt Week; ſhe now finds her ſelf much better, and can move both her Arms: Her other Sores likewiſe are healed, and her Swellings are alſo aſſwaged. She deſires to know if ſhe muſt continue the Uſe of the Powder ſteeped in Water, as you advis'd, or whether ſhe may forbear. Your ſpeedy Anſwer will oblige your humble Servant,

April 9. 1708. *M. Stanhope.*

SIR,

I Send this to acquaint you, that my Child, which was blind with the *King's-Evil* of both Eyes 3 or 4 Months, is now, by God's Bleſſing, and thoſe Medicines which you ſent me, perfectly recovered. I pray God to bleſs your Endeavours

deavours for the Benefit of others, as he hath done for mine, who am your most obliged Friend and Servant,

Stanstead, Feb. 21, 170⅘. *John Trayhearne.*

Edmund Mott, extremely afflicted with the *King's-Evil* in several Joints, and had been a Patient in St. *Bartholomew's* Hospital six Months, was afterwards cured by Mr. *Vickers*. The said *Edmund Mott* liveth in *Plow-Court, Grays-Inn-Lane*.

John Higgins, a Caulker, living at *Ratcliff-Cross*, was troubled with many running Sores under his Right Jaw, which his Surgeons judged to be the *King's-Evil*. His Ulcers were large and deep, and with a little Pressure, Matter would issue forth in great abundance. *Nov.* 23. 1708. he applied himself to me, and the following *April* himself and Wife came to me in *John's* Coffee-house in *Swithins-Alley*, adjoining to the *Royal Exchange*, and gave me publick Thanks for the good Service I had done him in curing his Face, which he then declared had been sound and well two Months before he came to wait on me.

William Middleton, a Bookseller not far from the *Royal Exchange*, afflicted with the *King's Evil* in the same Part, and much after the same manner as in the Case above-mentioned, was cured in six Weeks; when perhaps

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in another it might require ſixteen Months, there is that difference in Peoples Conſtitutions.

A Lady of Quality near *Sohoe Square* brought her Grand-daughter (a Child about 11 Years Old) to my Houſe, very much afflicted with the *Evil* in her Noſe and upper Lip; both were very much ſwelled and ulcerated, and a thick Matter was every Night diſcharged from her Noſe upon the Pillow; inſomuch that the Loſs of that Part was much feared by the Grandmother. Her Conſtitution was hectick and coſtive, and her Appetite always craving. It was *Sept.* 13. 1707. when I undertook this Child, and by the following *Auguſt* it pleaſed God to bleſs my Endeavours with that Succeſs, that no one could diſcern ſhe had ever been afflicted with any ſuch Diſtemper; and ſhe has continued free from any ſuch Complaint ever ſince. Mr. *M*— Her Majeſty's Apothecary knoweth the Truth of this Cure, and will (I preſume) upon Requeſt teſtifie the ſame.

MR. *Jackſon*, a Young Man about 19 Years of Age, of a thin emaciated Conſtitution, much afflicted with the *Evil* in his left Elbow, wherein were four or five Holes, his Arm likewiſe very much waſted with the continually long running of thoſe Sores, the Humour had alſo contracted the Joint, that he could not extend his Arm. In this Condition his Parents committed him to my Care: The internal Application of my *Specifick Remedy* produced ſuch a mighty Flux of Matter, that

for

for ſome time he was obliged to dreſs his Sores thrice a Day: His Urine alſo (eſpecially in the Morning) would be very thick and foul, ſmelling at the ſame time very rank and ſower. It was almoſt a Year e're his Cure was effected, but (I bleſs God) it was at laſt compleated. Diſtemper'd People are ſubject to ſo many Caſualties, that no Man can fix a Time for their Cure.

MRs. *Eliz. Palmer*, a Young Gentlewoman of a very good Family, much afflicted with the *King's Evil* for many Years under both her Jaws, above both her Breaſts, and likewiſe in one of her Elbows; for the Cure whereof ſhe had for ſome time drunk no other Liquor but the Decoction of the Woods, purging twice or thrice a Week with *Mercurius Dulcis* and *Extractum Rudii*. Theſe things availing nothing, ſhe betook her ſelf to the Uſe of the *Antimonial Powder*, ſo much recommended by a certain Perſon, and waited the Succeſs thereof a Year and half: But her Diſtemper increaſing, and having no Proſpect of good Effect, a near Relation perſuaded her to come to me. Her Condition in Truth was ſo bad, that I could not give her any Encouragement, and ſo we parted. A few Days afterwards ſhe with her Relation came again to my Houſe, with a Reſolution to try my Method of Cure, leaving the Succeſs to Almighty God. I adviſed her to drink at leaſt every Day three Pints of my *Specifick Water*, to waſh her Sores therewith Morning and Evening, and to dreſs them with the *Specifick Cerecloth*. The firſt News I heard

heard from her, was, that ſhe complain'd of great Pains and Uneaſineſſes, concluding herſelf rather worſe than better. As I knew the Reaſon and Neceſſity of her preſent Grievances, I begg'd her Patience and Perſeverance a little longer: And perceiving the Orifices of her Ulcers too ſmall to let out the *Matter*, I dilated each with Gentian Roots, upon which it's almoſt incredible to tell the Filth and Naſtineſs which her Sores vented at every Dreſſing. Part of her Elbow-bone exfoliated, which afterwards quickly heal'd; the reſt of her Ulcers continued running ſeveral Months, and then they cloſed. I have not ſince heard from her the leaſt Complaint or Apprehenſions of a Relapſe, and it is now more than three Years ſince her Cure was accompliſh'd: Which indeed I no more expected than I did my own.

MR. *Benjamin Syms*, the Pariſh Clerk's Son of St. *Swithin*'s Church, *Cannon-ſtreet*, I cur'd in a very ſhort time, of ſeveral Ulcers in his Face, who is now grown a very healthful Young-man.

I Likewiſe cur'd a Surgeon's Widow, in *Brentford*, who, for many Years, was very much afflicted with the *Evil* in her Eyes; for the Cure whereof, her Husband, as ſhe told me (a very ingenious Man) had us'd his utmoſt Endeavours, but to no Purpoſe.

A Young Gentleman of a very good Family in *Sussex*, afflicted with many strumous Sores and Swellings in his Neck, having, for several Years tried most of the common Methods and Remedies for his Cure, (and also Mr. *Ferne's Alkalious Medicines*) but with no Advantage, came up to *London* with another Friend to treat with me. I gave him the *Specifick* Powder with Directions how to prepare it in Spring-Water, for his constant Drink: Also Dressings for his Sores; with Instructions, likewise, for a Regimen of *Diet*. The first News I heard of him after his Return into the Country, was of a great Heat and Itching from Head to Foot; and of a very thick Scarff upon the Surface of the Skin, which so disheartned him, that he forbore following the Method prescribed, until I assur'd him that those Symptoms were the Effects of the Remedy, and, (according to what I had experienced in others) hopeful Indications of his Cure. As I said, so it came to pass: The first of *April*, 1708. was the Day when he enter'd upon his Course, and before *Christmass* he came to see me without the least Sore or Swelling about him.

How far the *Imagination or a Thought deeply fix'd, and exalted, as it were, into a Belief, is of Power to alter the Body of the Patient*, I pretend not to determine; yet I have some Reason from the following Case to think, that where People have a good Opinion of their Physician, it may contribute something towards facilitating their Cure.

Susan

Susan Waltum having heard of my Success in curing the *Kings-Evil*, travell'd a-foot out of *Lincolnshire* to seek my Assistance. She had been grievously afflicted with the Evil in her Eyes (as she said) from her Infancy: One she apprehended was quite lost, and the Sight of the other very dark. She had, moreover, many hard and glandulous Swellings on each side of her Neck, which she fear'd would obstruct her Swallowing: Her Condition appear'd to me so bad, that I could not give her the least Hope. The Young-woman several Days importun'd me to help her, firmly believing (as she told me) that if I would I might do her good. Her constant Application prevailed with me to try what might be done; and according to her Belief so it came to pass, by the Use of those Means I prescribed she first of all gain'd the Sight of both Eyes, so as to be able to sow and knit; afterwards some of her Swellings broke, run and healed; others asswag'd and went away insensibly; at last she was so well recover'd, that she went to Service, and continued sound and well until she was seiz'd with the Small-pox, whereof she died. The Truth of this Cure is known to most People now living in *Bell-alley* near *Coleman-street*.

MRs. *Ann Day*, a Gentleman's Daughter of *Rixmondworth*, afflicted with weak and sore Eyes from her Cradle; she had been severely treated with all the common Methods of *Purging*, *Diet-Drinking*, and *Blistering*, to so little Purpose (as her Father told me) that by how

much the more he had tamper'd, the worſe it was with her: And therefore for the future, he reſolv'd not to afflict her afreſh with the like Severities. My Method I aſſur'd him was of that eaſie and gentle Nature, that a ſucking Child might endure it; whereupon the Gentleman took a Quantity of my *Specifick Remedy*, with Directions how to prepare it in ſuch Drink as ſhe would take (the Patient having an Averſion to Water) and a Bill of Fare for her *Diet*. About three Weeks or a Month afterwards, the Gentleman came to my Houſe in a great Fury, crying out that his Child's Eyes were worſe than ever, very much enflamed, the Sight of both almoſt cover'd with two large *Films*, and her Head alſo broke out in ſeveral Places. I deſired him to return home and have Patience, to bleed her five or ſix Ounces, and purſue the Method before preſcrib'd, and in a little time he would find his Child's Eyes to grow every Day better and better. My Predictions (I thank God) prov'd true; and the Father was ſo wonderfully pleaſed with his Child's Recovery and Cure, that he doubled his Acknowledgment to me for the good Service.

For the Conviction of thoſe who need it, that internal Remedies may be found able to perform Chirurgical Operations, the following Caſe may, I think, not be unſerviceable.

A Tradeſman's Child, near *Queenhith, Thames-ſtreet*, about Eleven Years of Age, of an healthful Conſtitution in all other Reſpects, excepting

cepting a large *Scrophulous Tumour*, not ulcerated, adhering to one of her Jaws. This Tumour, by the internal Application of my *Specifick Remedy*, in a Months Time, was brought to ſuch a Maturity, that I preſs'd out the Chore between my Fingers, before the Child's Parents, and ſeveral other People, then preſent; and uſed no other Means to accompliſh her Cure, but the inward Adminiſtration of my *Specifick Remedy*; and the Child has no Sign or Symptom of the *Evil* to be ſeen about her, ſince ſhe was cur'd, which is now more than three Years. The like I did with ſuch another Tumour, the Bigneſs of a Gooſes Egg, on a Boys Thigh: He lives in *Drury-lane*, the End of great *Queen-ſtreet*.

A Gentleman living in *Bow*, by *Stratford*, brought his Son, about 14 Years of Age. He had the *Evil* in his upper Lip, which was very much ſwelled, and likewiſe cover'd with a thick Scab. I gave him ſome Gally-pots of my Specifick Ointment, to anoint his Lip every Night going to Bed; and ſome Papers of the *Specifick Remedy*, to take thrice a Day in what Liquor he pleas'd, the Uſe whereof he continued but two Months or ten Weeks, and became well. This young Man, I preſume, may be known to the Reverend Mr. *Gaynam*; becauſe, to the beſt of my Remembrance, I heard his Father ſay his Son was his Scholar before and ſince his Cure.

MRs. *Anne May*, a Young Woman about 19 Years of Age, came to my Houſe, afflicted with the *King's Evil* in the following Manner: She had one ſtrumous Swelling, very large and hard, on the right Side of her Neck; cloſe above the *Claviculæ*, under the ſame Arm-pit was a deep Ulcer, and another on the out-ſide of the ſame Shoulder; likewiſe many ſcrophulous Sores and Ulcers down from her right Knee to the Ancle. The long Continuance of this Diſeaſe, with two Salivations ſhe had paſs'd through, had reduc'd her Body to a meer Skeleton: This being her Condition, when I firſt undertook her Cure, the following Letter, written with her own Hand, will give the Reader a ſatisfactory Account of my Succeſs.

For the Reverend Mr. Vickers, *in* Sherburn-lane.

Sir,

BEing unexpectedly call'd out of Town, to viſit a Relation which lieth very ſick and weak, I have ſent the Bearer hereof with my Acknowledgments and hearty Thanks for your curing me of a Diſtemper, under which I had labour'd ſome Years; whereof now, bleſſed be God, I am ſo well recover'd, that I have not one Sore, Swelling, or any other Symptom of the Evil about me. I ſhall not be wanting to own your great Care and Succeſs, and to do you all the real Service I am able. So I reſt your Friend and obliged Servant.

Sept. 13. 1707. *Anne May.*

Whereas

WHereas I *Susan Wallis*, living in *Church-lane*, by *Whitechappel*-Church, near the *Queens-Head* Alehouse, having for many Years been miserably afflicted with the *Kings-Evil* in such a violent Manner, in my Neck, Breasts, and both Arms, that the Surgeons of St. *Bartholomew*'s Hospital would not suffer my Admittance there for Cure. I applied my self to Mr. *Vickers*, a Clergy-man in *Sherburn lane*, near *Lombard-street*, who, contrary to mine and all other People's Expectations, did, in a wonderful manner, effect my Cure; having ever since, blessed be God, enjoyed an extraordinary State of Health.

Sept. 6. 1707. Witness my Hand,
Susan Wallis.

WHereas I *Matthew Winter*, living at Mrs. *Vaughan*'s, next door to the *Feathers* in *Billiter-lane*, being very much afflicted with the *Kings Evil* in my Face, wherein I had many running Sores, as also several hard and large Swellings in my Neck, for which I could not obtain any Cure, until I apply'd my self to Mr. *Vickers*, a Clergy-man, living in *Sherburn-lane*, near *Lombard-street*, who, by the Blessing of God, did effect my Cure in a very short time. In Testimony hereof I have witnessed my Hand,

Octob. 25. 1707. *Matthew Winter.*

Note, Since this Man was cur'd, he hath been one Voyage to the *East-Indies*, and is now gone

a ſecond: But Mrs. *Vaughan*, and moſt of the Neighbours thereabout, know the Truth thereof.

A Young Lady, Siſter to an eminent Gentleman of *Hampſhire*, ſo much afflicted with this Evil Humour in her Eyes, from her Childhood, that the Violence thereof had almoſt deprived her of the Sight of both, notwithſtanding her plentiful Fortune had enabled her to ſeek for all the Advice and Aſſiſtance City or Country could afford. A near Relation having ſeen one of my Cures on another Perſon, much of the ſame Nature, recommended her to me, and in three Weeks Time, while ſhe lodg'd in *Katherine-ſtreet, Covent-Garden*, my *Specifick Remedy* had that good Effect that ſhe was able to read a very ſmall Print by Candle light, without the leaſt Trouble or Offence to her Eyes: From whom, ſince her Return into the Country, I have had ſeveral Letters, ſignifying that ſhe continues well, and free from any Suſpicion of a Relapſe, whereof the following may give the Reader ſome Satisfaction:

Reverend Sir, *May* 18. 1709.

THis comes to acquaint you, that my Eyes continue very well ever ſince I left *London*, ſo that I hope there is no farther Occaſion for a freſh Supply of Medicine. I have ſome Thoughts of going to the *Bath* with a Relation: I deſire your Opinion, if I may bath, or only drink the Waters? What you adviſe, I ſhall ſtrictly obſerve. I have alſo another Favour to ask; A Friend of mine ſeeing your *Companion* to

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the Altar, &c. would have you to ſend down by the firſt Return of our Carrier a Dozen and half. So with mine and Siſter's Service, *&c.*

IT pleaſed God to grant me likewiſe the ſame good Succeſs on a Clergyman's Child afflicted in her Eyes, Noſe, and upper Lip with the *King's Evil*. The Child's Uncle, an eminent Apothecary in this City, hath been ſo kind as to own her Cure in ſeveral publick Places.

COlonel *Lloyd*'s Child, about five Years old, at *Lowlayton* in *Eſſex*, having large ſtrumous Swellings of the Bigneſs of a large Walnut fixed to the right ſide directly under the Arm, his Father dreaded its breaking, declaring he would give an hundred Pounds rather than it ſhould ulcerate. I gave this Child my *Specifick* Remedy ſeven or eight Months, in which time the Swellings waſted and went away inſenſibly, and I am ſure there is not now a finer Child in the Kingdom. Mr. *Ferne* I ſuppoſe may have heard of this Cure, becauſe he's very well known to this Child's Father.

A Tradeſman's Daughter about 12 Years of Age, living in *Milkſtreet*, *London*, was in like manner afflicted with the *King's Evil* in the ſame Part, tho' not ſo bad as the former. I compaſſed her Cure in five Months time: She is now grown a very healthful young Woman, and her Father declares ſhe hath a better State of Health than any of his other Children.

A

A Young Lad, an Apprentice to Mr. *Colſton*, at a Toyſhop againſt the *Royal Exchange*, had the *Evil* under one of his Jaws, whom I cured in leſs than ſix Weeks. As alſo Mrs. *Jackſon*'s Daughter not far from the *Swan and Hoop Tavern*, of many ulcerated Tumors in her Arm; but her Cure was not ſo ſpeedily accompliſhed as the former.

A Lady in the Country hearing of my Succeſs in curing the *Evil*, brought her only Child to Town for my Advice and Aſſiſtance. The Boy had a large ſcrophulous Ulcer on the top of his right Foot, and the left Ancle was very much ſwelled with the ſame Humour; otherwiſe of an healthful Conſtitution. Suſpecting the Bones to be foul in the ulcerated Foot, I told the Mother I could not do her Son any Service the ſhort time ſhe propoſed to ſtay in *London*; but if ſhe pleaſed to let him experience my Method of Cure in the Country where ſhe lived, I would give her Medicines, with Inſtructions how to apply them; unto which ſhe conſented. The firſt Account I had from the Lady was of the Exfoliation of ſome foul Bones belonging to the *Metatarſus*, and that the ſwelled Ancle was broke. Accordingly I ſent her Directions how to manage thoſe Matters, keeping a Correſpondence by Letters, as occaſion required. How Matters ſucceeded in this caſe, I refer my ſelf to the Lady's following Letter.

SIR,

SIR,

With unspeakable Joy I congratulate you with the good News of my Son's Cure, attained by the Blessing of God, and those Means you prescribed. I forbore writing until the Spring and Fall were over, for fear of a Relapse, which I thank God I have no reason to suspect. The Child is well, and in extraordinary good Health, and will be in London *in a few Weeks to wait on you himself. God Almighty make me thankful, and bless your Endeavours for the Good of others, as he hath done for mine. So I rest your most obliged Friend and Servant.*

Sept. 9. 1707.

A Merchant's Child, about 9 Years of Age, (very well known to that Eminent Physician, who was pleas'd to dignify me with the Title of *Quack*) was so miserably afflicted with the *Evil* in her Eyes, that for several Months (as her Father assured me) she had not been out of Bed, nor able to suffer the least Light to enter the Room where she lay. She had taken great Quantities of *Mercurius dulcis*, and likewise the common Decoctions of the Woods, with some other Simples (whereby her Appetite was almost lost) to sweeten her Blood. In order to her Relief, I thought it adviseable to dry up an Issue she then had, and to open one in the other Arm. Then I order'd my *Specifick* Liquor for her ordinary Drink, and no other, except a Glass of Wine at Meals; to observe a Regimen

of

of Diet, and to wash her Eyes both Morning and Night, and at several other times in the Day, with the same *Specifick* Liquor she drank of. The Effect thereof was this: The Child was able in 14 Days to walk up and down the House without a Covering to shade the Light from her Eyes, and in four Months she was perfectly cured.

A Young Woman about 22 Years of Age, Wife to an Officer in the Excise at *Kingston* upon *Thames*, had a grievous ulcerated Breast. Some Surgeons said it was the *Evil*, others that it was a *Cancer*; nor will I offer to determine the Point. But remembring a Passage in *Brown*'s *Surgery*, that "scrophulous Ulcers often dege-"nerate into Cancers, I told this Woman if my *Specifick* Remedy and Regimen of *Diet* would do her any Service, she should be welcome to my Endeavours, but as for a Cure I could not pretend to assure her of. Both she and her Husband thankfully accepting of my Offer, I first washed her Breast with my *Specifick* Water; afterwards I applied the Cerecloth double over the *Ulcer*, which Dressings I order'd her to repeat twice a Day as I had shewed her, to drink the *Specifick* Liquor for her constant Drink, at least three Pints a Day, and to observe the *Diet* according to Instructions. I will not attempt to set forth how great a Quantity of Matter was discharged from this Woman's Breast at every Dressing, because few People will believe it possible; yet notwithstanding this plentiful Flux, which lasted above four Months, she

ſhe went every Day briskly about her Buſineſs, never complaining of the leaſt Pain or Indiſpoſition. This Method ſhe continued two Years, and then became perfectly well; the Truth whereof both Husband and Wife, with ſeveral of their Friends, are ready to teſtify upon any Occaſion.

MR. *David Nicholſon*, a Young Gentleman in this City about 19 Years of Age, of a Conſumptive Habit of Body, and melancholy Complexion, came to me, *April* 13. 1708. with ſcrophulous Ulcers above the right *Scapula*, for the Cure whereof he had been fluxed twice, beſides great Quantities of *Diet-Drinks* of all ſorts he had taken to ſweeten his Blood, which he affirm'd had done him more Hurt than his Diſtemper; for before the Uſe of thoſe things, he enjoyed (as he ſaid) a good State of Health; but now he had neither Stomach to eat, nor Strength to ſupport himſelf. He complained moreover of intolerable Pains and Gripings in his Guts, which he feared was the *Mercury* lodg'd in thoſe Parts. I told him he had Youth on his ſide, and if he pleaſed to retire into the Country ſome ſmall Diſtance from *London*, I would uſe my utmoſt Endeavours to effect his Cure. Accordingly he went to *Richmond*, and firſt of all I ply'd him with a Medicine to clear his Body of the *Mercury*; which was ſpeedily effected, as I had reaſon to think, by the Eaſe he found in thoſe Parts: Then paſſing a Probe into the Ulcer, I found it very deep; and therefore I made ſmall Tents of the *Specifick* Oint-

Ointment to penetrate to the bottom, covering the *Superficies* of the *Ulcer* with my *Cere-cloth*. These Dressings were repeated twice a Day; and for his constant Use I confin'd him to common Table Drink, wherein a sufficient Quantity of my *Specifick Remedy* had been infused; as also to eat a sort of *Herbs* dress'd Sallet-wise once a Day without fail; which Method he continued 7 Months, whereby he became fat and jolly, and able to walk from *Richmond* to *London*. And by the following *Christmas* the Cure was finish'd.

Jane Gray, a Maid Servant about 16 Years of Age, of a Plethorick Constitution, came to me *August* the 12th, 1707. having many Tumors in one of her Thighs and Legs, for the Cure whereof (by the Account she gave) she had been treated by others according to the *Rational Method*, but with no Advantage. She had not the Evacuation peculiar to her Sex, which I judged absolutely necessary should be obtain'd to facilitate her Cure; for which purpose I made her a *Chalybiate Tincture*, to take half a Pint every Morning fasting, which had its desired Effect. After this I advised her to take my *Specifick Liquor* for her constant Drink, and to observe my Regimen of Diet. But her Cure, as she fancied, going on slowly, she grew weary of my Method, and apply'd her self unto others, who it seems made a Jest of my Proceedings. Three Months afterwards she returns to me *Hydropical*, and in a very weak Condition, beseeching me to take her once more under

under Cure. At first I refused, apprehending her Cure would be more tedious than before, if at all possible. But she with some of her Friends earnestly importuning me, I wrote a Prescription of some Hydragogues to an Apothecary, advising her to drink two or three Glasses of White Wine dulcified with Syrup of Elderberries for the Cure of her *Dropsie*, which being subdued, I attacked her other Enemy with the same Method she was treated withal before she left me, by which her numerous Swellings did speedily suppurate, discharging abundance of Matter; also several rotten *Scales* separated and came away. It was full 18 Months e'er I was able to finish this Woman's Cure, who is now a married Woman, and has three very fine Children, and is so far from having any remaining Symptoms whatsoever, that her Husband knows not to this Day that she ever had any such Distemper.

A Gentleman with his Lady (living near St. *James*'s Church) brought their Son, about 17 Years Old, to my House: The young Man had a great Cluster of scrophulous Tumours on the right side of his Neck, and the like under each Jaw. Many Endeavours they told me had been used to disperse them, but to no purpose. They discoursed with me about my Method, whereof I perceived they had no good Opinion. From me they went with their Child to a great Physician in those Parts where they lived, who according to the Practice of some who would be thought great Artists, us'd

me with more Freedom than becomes the Education their Friends have beſtow'd upon them; he adviſed them by all means to carry their Son down to the *Bath*, to bath him every Day, and to let him drink thoſe Waters, from whence he ſaid they might expect a Cure. Father, Mother, and Son went down to the *Bath*, carrying with them from their Doctor a large Scroll of Preparatives, where they ſtayed three Months, doing all Things there *ſecundum artem*, as their Great Phyſician had directed. But it ſeems Great Men are not always in the right, the young Man was brought up to *London* in a worſe Condition than when he left it; the Diſtemper had ſeized his Lungs, and ſo weak was he, that he looked more like a dead than a living Creature. His Father reflecting on my former Diſcourſe, ſent for me a ſecond time, begging me, if it were poſſible, to preſerve his Child's Life. Not regarding former Uſage, I gave the young Man a large quantity of my *Specifick Remedy*, with Directions how to prepare it in Spring-Water for his conſtant Drink, adviſing him to retire into ſome Country; and accordingly he went into *Oxfordſhire* to a Farm-houſe belonging to his Father, where he ſtayed five Months, in which time he ſo wonderfully recovered, that few People believed him to be the ſame Perſon. I preſs'd his Continuance in the *Air*, and at the end of five other Months he returned home as free from the Diſtemper as any Man living. His *quondam* Doctor paſſing by the Father's Houſe, lighted out of his Chariot to enquire after his Patient, and finding him

him clear of his Swellings, and in a perfect State of Health (not knowing what other Means had been uſed) aſcribed the Succeſs to the Uſe of the *Bath* Waters. No, quoth the Father, Sir, you are miſtaken, it was a Quack Medicine, obtain'd from that Gentleman (naming me) whom you formerly reviled.

THe High Sheriff's Son of *Cumberland*, a Youth about 16 Years of Age, of a ruddy Complexion, was miſerably afflicted with glandulous Swellings on each Side of his Throat, ſo that he had little or no Paſſage for his Food, and apprehended in a little Time he ſhould be choaked. This Young-man was brought to me in Mr. *Child*'s Shop, Bookſeller in St. *Paul*'s Church-yard, whoſe Condition appearing dangerous, I deſired ſome time to conſider of it. The next Morning, the young Gentleman with his Friends came to know my Reſolutions. I propoſed a Week or Ten Days Tryal, which they agreed to; in which Time, by the inward Application of my *Specifick Remedy*, the Young-man could eat Roaſt Beef, and Plum-pudding heartily. The Medicine had a different Effect upon him to what it hath upon others, working gently three or four Times a Day by ſtool: One of his Swellings broke, run, and heal'd; the other aſſwaged and went away inſenſibly. Mr. *Ferne* may remember this young Gentleman's Caſe, if he pleaſeth to call to mind the Diſcourſe he had with Mr. *Story*, in *Ship-yard* near *Temple-Bar*, my Patient then lodg'd at a Houſe there.

A Gentleman's Daughter about ſix Years Old, living in the *Broad-Place, Weſtminſter*, much afflicted with the *Evil* in her Eyes, Noſe and Lips. The Child being of a mild and tractable Diſpoſition, drank, every Day, a Quart or three Pints of my *Specifick Water*: The firſt Appearance of her Recovery was in her Eyes: The next was the Extirpation of a cruſty hard Scab, within each Noſtril, which obſtructed her Breathing: The third was, her upper Lip (which had been extremely ſwelled) aſſwag'd, and became conformable to the other. It was ſix Months e're her Cure was accompliſhed, but ſhe is now as fine a Child as any in thoſe Parts, her Mother lately declaring to me, that ſince her Child's Cure, which is more than three Years, ſhe hath not had any Returns of the Humour in the Parts formerly affected; nor any thing like it elſewhere.

N. B. After this Child had drank this *Specifick Liquor* two Months, a large Tumour aroſe under her right Arm, which, without any external Application broke and diſcharg'd abundance of filthy Matter, and then healed firm and ſound in leſs than ſixteen Days.

Having intimated Page 34 of the Book, how incredulous ſome People are of a Man's Abilities to ſerve them, eſpecially when their Expectations of Succeſs have been fruſtrated by Men of great Practice and Characters: I will here give an Inſtance of ſuch a Caſe.

A Gentleman of a very good Family, afflicted with this Diſtemper 16 Years, had ſeveral large and deep Ulcers in one of his Arms, above the Elbow-Joint; and likewiſe one large Ulcer on each Shin-bone. His plentiful Fortune had commanded all the Help and Aſſiſtance for his Cure this Kingdom afforded; inſomuch that hardly a Man eminent either in Phyſick or Surgery eſcaped him. An Acquaintance of mine told ſome of his Relations of my Succeſs with ſeveral People, whom they ſaw, and received from them all the Satisfaction they could wiſh or deſire. But all availed nothing, himſelf and Relations alledging that if thoſe great Men with whom they had already adviſed could not cure him, they could not believe me capable of doing him any Service. Sometime after, the Gentleman ſends for me, deſiring that he might have my *Specifick Remedy* to take inwardly, with all thoſe other neceſſary Inſtructions I judg'd conducive to his Cure, except the Dreſſings of his Sores, which he ſaid were then under the Care and Management of ſo conſiderable an Artiſt, that, without his Conſent, he was not willing to truſt me with any outward Applications. I anſwered I muſt do both or none, and upon this we parted, without any Expectations on my Side to ſee or hear more of him; but after a few Days the Gentleman came again, and ſaid he had obtain'd Leave for me to undertake both. I begun his Cure in *April*, 1709. my ſelf dreſſing his Ulcers every Morning with my *Specifick*

Cerecloth and *Ointment*, and obliging him to drink every Day, at leaſt three Pints of my *Specifick Liquor*. In a Months time, thoſe four Bones, which himſelf and Friends fear'd I had not Judgment ſufficient to deal with, drop'd out one Morning, when I took off his Dreſſings, and by the following *September*, he had not one Sore or Symptom of the *Evil* to be ſeen about him. After his Cure was finiſh'd, he went a Journey on Horſe-back 300 Miles, and I have heard no Complaints of any Relapſe, tho' its two Years and upwards ſince he was cured.

A Gentleman living near St. *Sepulchres* Church brought his Daughter to me, having a large moveable Tumour under her right Jaw; her Father was very fearful of its breaking, and therefore begged of me, if it were poſſible, to prevent its turning to a Sore. I told him if it mightibe done with Safety to her future Health, I would endeavour it. Accordingly I gave her one Dram of my *Specifick Remedy*, to take in Subſtance, Morning, Noon, and Night, in her common Drink; by the Uſe whereof, in a Months Time, her Parents obſerv'd a viſible Decay of the Swelling, and in four Months there was no Sign of it left. It's now full three Years ſince ſhe was cur'd, in all which Time I have heard no Complaints of Relapſe, nor of any other Indiſpoſition attending its Diſſolution.

MRs. *E. Corler*, a Young Lady about 18 Years of Age, extremely afflicted with ſore Eyes from her Cradle, with ſtrumous Swellings in her Neck;

Neck; and likewise with a filthy thick Scurff over her Face, Neck, Shoulders and Breasts: For the Cure whereof several *Physicians, Surgeons* and *Apothecaries* had been employed, but her Disease had always resisted the strongest Efforts of their *Diet-Drinks, Bleedings, Blisterings, Issues, Mercurial* and *Antimonial* Purges. When I undertook her Cure, *March* 7. 170⅘. I obliged her for some time to drink at least two Quarts of my *Specifick Liquor* every Day; to eat plentifully some particular Herbs dress'd with Oil, Vinegar and Sugar, and to exchange her fine Down Bed for that of clean Straw, which was shifted every Morning. The first Appearance of an Amendment was in her Eyes, being able to see the Light of the Sun and Fire without a Shade: The next Advantage she reaped, was her filthy Scurff peel'd off by Degrees, so that her Face, *&c.* begun to look like other Peoples: After this, her Swellings in her Neck, (except one which broke and run) asswaged and went away; so that there was promising Hopes of a *perfect Cure*, beyond *Relapse*, until *August*, when the Humour return'd a-fresh into her Eyes, tho' not with the usual Severity as formerly, neither did it continue above four Days. The Winter approaching, I advised her to change the Straw-Bed for a hard Quilt; to pursue the Use of the *Specifick Liquor* and Herb-Diet, until the Fall of the Leaf was over, by which Means she became perfectly well, and hath continued free from any Relapse about four Years. The Truth whereof (to do me any Service) she will not scruple to own.

Mrs.

MRs. *Middleton*, a Young-woman, living near *Shoreditch*-Church, afflicted with this Diſtemper in both her Elbows, in the Wriſt of one of her Hands, and likewiſe on the major outward Canthus of her right Eye, ſo that ſhe feared the Loſs of that Eye, was adviſed by a Neighbour, whoſe Child I had cured of the ſame Diſtemper (tho' not ſo bad) to come to me; but it ſeems, ſome Surgeons, whom ſhe had conſulted, told her poſitively it was in vain to expect a Cure, by any other Means whatſoever, but by *Amputation*, which the Young-woman and her Mother would not hear of; and through much Perſwaſions of the Neighbour, Mother and Daughter came to my Houſe, about this time 2 Years, to know if I could cure the Diſtemper. I told them it was not my Method to warrant any thing, but they ſhould ſee thoſe whom I had cur'd from a worſe Condition; as they did. Upon thoſe Encouragements, the Young-woman took my *Remedies*, both for outward and inward Application, with all other Inſtructions conducive to her Cure, which had that good Effect, not only to preſerve the Sight of her Eye, and to heal her Sores, but alſo to recover the loſt Uſe of her Joints; ſo that now ſhe is able to get her Living by making of Manteaus.

A Practitioner in Phyſick, of good Buſineſs and Repute, about 30 Miles diſtant from *London*, was pleas'd to communicate the following Caſe to me, *Jan.* 19. 1707.

SIR,

SIR,

IT's my Misfortune to have been afflicted with the *King's Evil* very near twenty Years. The first Appearance was a large Tumour on my Thigh, which broke and run; several small Pieces of Bone came away with little or no Pain, except at the Times of Dressing. Next followed another such like Tumour, with a Throbbing Pain in the *Inguen* of the same Thigh, which was open'd with a *Caustick*, and in about half a Year seem'd to be well; but afterwards the Humour breaking out a-fresh, I felt a Pain hardly tolerable, having little or no Rest Night nor Day, without *Anodines*: For the Cure whereof I pass'd thro' a Course of Salivation, which did neither check nor alter the Course of the Humours; but afterwards several scrophulous Kernels appearing in the *Membrana Carnosa*, I was under dismal Consternations, and not knowing what to do, I betook my self unto the habitual Use of a Diet-Drink made of the *Woods*, with *Lime*-Water, which after a long Experience, prov'd as useless as all my other Applications. If therefore, you can do me any Service, I will generously gratifie your Endeavours, and likewise make you Amends by many other Recommendations.

I am, SIR, your humble Servant.

What Success my Method of Cure had upon this Gentleman, his own Words, in the following Letter will testifie.

Rev.

Rev. SIR,

I Have deferr'd Writing to you, to see if the Happiness which I now enjoy by your Medicines, was like to last. I thank God I have been well and free from any Symptom of the Evil, above these four Months, and therefore will not trouble you for a Supply of your Specifick Remedy *until the Spring, when I intend to renew its Application for a Month. The next Month I shall be in* London, *to pay you my Respects and hearty Acknowledgments for those great Services you have done for me.*

Nov. 3. 1707. I rest your most obliged humble Servant.

MR. *Joseph Ward*, a Tradesman in this City, about last *Christmas*, brought his only Son, a Boy about 6 Years Old, to me, very much afflicted with the *Evil* in his right Leg, from his Knee down to the Ancle, whereon he had several running Sores, and the Bone carious in many Places. I enlarged his Sores by Degrees, with some Spunge Tents, made with my *Specifick Ointment*, ordering the Child to drink plentifully of my *Specifick Liquor* for his constant Drink, and to wash his Sores therewith every Dressing; and notwithstanding the Disposition of the *Air* at that Season was not very commodious, yet I observed some Indications of a future Success, which the Child's Mother not believing, (unknown to the Father) sent for a Physician and Surgeon to pass their Judgments on my Proceedings. They suggested that better Measures might be taken for the Boy's Cure, than those Reme-

Remedies I had apply'd. Whereupon I immediately gave place to their Opinions, and left the Child to their Management: But after they had treated him two Months *ſecundum artem*, the Boy's Father and Mother came again, and deſired me to renew my former Applications, declaring their Son was worſe than ever; that he had loſt the Uſe of his Knee, and was not able to go nor ſtand without Crutches. This Account did very much ſurprize me; becauſe, when I left the Child with thoſe Gentlemen, the Boy had the full Uſe of his Joints, and was in every Reſpect (excepting his Sores) as well as other Children. After I had viewed the Child, I freely told his Parents my Thoughts, that there was no Hopes of retrieving the Uſe of his Joint, but he would be a Cripple all the Days of his Life; and the only Service I was able to do for him was to heal his Sores, and to prevent the Diſtemper from breaking out elſewhere; which, it pleaſed God, after a few Months Care, and Application of my *Specifick* Remedies, to enable me to effect.

Jonathan Miles, a Youth about Fourteen Years of Age, was brought to me out of *Norfolk*, with great Defluxions in both his Eyes, and his upper Lip ſwelled with the ſame Humour; he likewiſe complain'd of a very great Pain and Inflamation in the Iſſue which he had in his Arm, which I found was not cut in its right Place. I adviſ'd him immediately to dry up his Iſſue, or otherwiſe, if continued, he might loſe that Arm; and to get another cut

in

in the oppoſite Arm, my ſelf marking the Place where it ſhould be made. When that was done, for ſome Reaſons, I adviſ'd him to take two Purges of a particular Preparation of Rhubarb, and then to begin the Uſe of my Specifick Remedy in his common Table-drink. His Inflamation in 7 or 8 Days was very much abated, and the Fluxion moderately ſtopp'd. I made him alſo to waſh his Eyes with a *Collyrum* made of the ſame Specifick Remedy, with Roſe and Plantain Water. By the Uſe of this Means, after two ſmall Relapſes, he got rid of his ſore Eyes, and ſwelled Lip, and return'd home to his own Country. Neither can I hear (having often enquir'd) that his Eyes have been ſore ſince he was cur'd, which, I think, is about Twelve Months.

☞People ſhould be cautious what external *Remedies* they apply to their *Eyes*. I had very near loſt the Sight of both mine by the Uſe of an *Eye-Water* very much recommended by one who gave it me. I find by my own Experience that when this Diſtemper ſeizes the *Eyes*, take away the Cauſe by inward Means, and the Effect will ceaſe. And I have found likewiſe by the Teſtimony and Experience of others, that thoſe *Eyes* have always far'd the worſe, which have been moſt tamper'd withal by outward Remedies. There is now a Young Woman, living in *Biſhopſgate-ſtreet*, who may curſe the Day as long as ſhe liveth for the Uſe of an *Eye-Water* given her by Sir Knight. Alſo another Young Woman, who, for a ſmall Inflama-

tion

tion in her Eyes applied an hot Poultice, and thereby in one Night loſt the Sight of both her Eyes for ever.

A Boy about Thirteen Years of Age, the Son of a worthy and learned Gentleman of *Halſtead* in *Eſſex*, was ſorely afflicted with the *Evil* in both his Eyes, and likewiſe with ſeveral hard Swellings in his Neck. His Father deſir'd me to uſe the ſame Endeavours for his Child's Cure, as I had done for my ſelf and others, and that ſhould content him. I begun this Boy's Cure in *April*, 1709. and notwithſtanding I met with ſeveral ſevere Repulſes in my Applications, yet it pleaſed God at laſt to enable me to conquer his Diſtemper, as may be ſeen by the Account given in the following Letter written by his Father.

Reverend Sir,

I Hope you and your good Lady are well. I ſhould be glad to ſee you both at Halſtead: *My Son (through God's Bleſſing) upon taking your Specifick ſeems to be very well; he has no Kernels left in his Neck, his Eyes have not been ſore, nor run, nor been gummy for a long time; but his Sight is as good as ever. He has lately taken another Doſe of your purging Steel Liquor: His uſual Drink is now common Table Drink, and his Iſſue runs very well. My Wife would know if ſhe may dry that up. There is wonderful notice taken in theſe Parts far and near of what you have done for my Child. A Gentleman, on Friday laſt, that*

lives ſome Miles from me, was asking me about my Child, where you lived, how he might ſpeak with you, and what were your Demands. I told him you was a reaſonable Man, and did conſider Peoples Circumſtances. Who it is that wants your Help I know not, but as for this Gentleman, who enquired of me about you, he is very well acquainted with moſt Perſons of Quality in our Country, ſo that if you can accord it may be much for your Advantage. I lent him your Book to read, which did mightily pleaſe him. Mr. Morley *of our Town gives you a good Word, and you may aſſure your ſelf I ſhall not be wanting to manifeſt your juſt Praiſes and Commendations to all People. My Wife and Son give their Services to you. So praying God to bleſs your generous Deſigns for all Mankind, I reſt your moſt humble Servant,*

July, 1710. W. H.

A Gentleman whoſe Name I never knew, nor from whence he came, came to my Houſe, *May* the 9*th*, 1708. where he ſhewed me one *Struma* on the Left Side of his Neck, alſo one ulcerated in each Arm, with a large Ulcer on the back of his Right Hand, and laſt of all a foul Ulcer on the outſide of his Left Ancle; for the Cure whereof he ſaid he had been ſalivated twice, and Diet-drinks and Teſtaceous Pouders he had taken to an incredible Number; but as yet nothing had availed him. He told me likewiſe he had heard much ſaid for and againſt me, but reſolved to ſpeak with me himſelf; and after he had diſcourſed with me about half an Hour, he concluded to let me undertake

his

his Cure, and accordingly took a Lodging for himself and Servant near my House. I constantly attended him every Morning to dress his Sores; and whereas he told me Water did never agree with his Constitution, I infused half an Ounce of my *Specifick* Remedy in two Gallons of Ale and one of Small Beer for his constant Drink, allowing him a Glass of Wine at Meals. This Drink put his Humours into such a quick Motion, that his Sores run prodigiously, insomuch that he begun to be very timorous, and apprehensive of some imminent Danger. I preached to him Patience and Perseverance, and all things would in the Issue do well: Which he not believing, declined the use of my Remedies, and enter'd upon another Method. He had not continued his new Course above 14 Days, but the former Flux and Current of the Humours stopp'd, attended with great Sicknesses at Stomach, Want of Appetite, and violent continual Pains in his Head. Upon this he sent for me a second time, beseeching me to renew my former Applications, which he promised to abide by for the future without wavering. At first I refused him as a just Punishment for his Contempt; but considering that he was a Man subject to *like Passions* with my self, I yielded to take care of him; and accordingly sent away immediately for an Apothecary to prepare a large Blister to lay between his Shoulders to divert the Humour out of his Head, which had immediate Effect. After this I gave him a gentle Purge of *Rhubarb* and *Sene* to open his Body, which had been very much bound. These things procured the Gentle-

man conſiderable Eaſe and Refreſhment; and then I ply'd him cloſe with his former Drink and outward Applications, which in a little time produced the ſame Flux of Humours as before, which continued running for the ſpace of four Months, in all which time he continued brisk and lively, declaring himſelf ſo extremely eaſy and ſatisfied with his preſent Condition, that if I was ſeven Year a curing him, he would neither grudge nor complain of his Time. But it pleaſed God to proſper my Endeavours with that Expedition, that I made him ſound and well by the next *February*.

A Youth, a Scholar in *Merchant Taylors* School, had the *Evil* very much in one of his Elbows. Two or three *Cauſticks*, as (he told me) had been applied; but as the Humour healed in one place, it broke out afreſh in another. An eminent Divine, Chaplain to his Grace the Duke of *Newcaſtle*, deſired me to take care of him, and to Cure him, if it were poſſible; which I did in a very ſhort time. It's above two Years ſince he was cured and went to *Cambridge*, from whom I have never heard of any other Breakings out.

Thomas Carter, a Caulker in *Rotherith*, by a Blow given him with a Mallet on the top of his Thumb, had a very large ſcrophulous Tumour on that part. A Surgeon had laid it open, and treated it with the uſual Methods in thoſe Caſes. But the Fellow's Hand grew worſe

and

and worſe, and ſome talked that his Thumb muſt be cut off to ſave his Hand. He was brought to my Houſe, *May* 18. 1708. to ſee if I could do him any good. I told his Friends, when his *Surgeon* had done with him, I would try what I could do. The young Man with his Friends went directly to acquaint the Surgeon, who ſent me word, with all his heart; he was tir'd out, not being able to do any thing more for his Patient than what he had already done. Upon this I dreſſed his Sore with my Remedies; and tho' he was a rude, careleſs, negligent Fellow, oftner drunk than ſober, I did cure his Ulcer firm and ſound, and brought him to the Uſe of his Thumb and Hand, not being able to uſe either before he came to me.

MRs. *Linley*'s Son, formerly at the Sign of the Riſing Sun in *Fanchurch-ſtreet*, a Hoſier's Shop, I cured of the *Evil* in his Face. What is become of the Child ſince I know not.

MRs. *Lambert*'s Child of *Iſlington* had very ſore Eyes, and breakings out in her Arms. I cured her in about ſix Months.

A Gentleman living at *Solebay*, *Suffolk*, was very much troubled with running Sores in his Face. He applied himſelf to me by a Letter for a Cure. Accordingly I ſupply'd him with Medicines and Inſtructions at that diſtance, from whom I have had ſeveral Letters that he is well, and continues in good Health, free from

any Returns of the Humour to this very Day.

MRs. *Rounſevall*'s Daughter, at the three Mariners in *Deptford*, as ſeverely afflicted with the *Evil* in her Eyes and in her Neck, as I have known a Child, when ſhe came to me. The Cure proved ſo tedious, that her Mother ſometimes deſpaired of reaping any Benefit from my Applications: I told the Mother, that if ſhe had but Patience and Reſolution to ſuffer her Daughter to continue the Uſe of the Means, tho' her Eyes did ſometimes relapſe, ſhe would find that I ſhould conquer the Humour, and make a compleat Cure in time. It pleaſed God that I was as good as my Word. The young Woman being as well now as any other in that Town.

I Likewiſe cured Mrs. *Helden*'s Child of ſore Eyes, ſhe lives in *Fore-ſtreet* near *Moorfields*.

MRs. *Margaret Ruſſel*'s Daughter of *Whybourne, Dorſetſhire*, I cured of a ſwelled Lip.

A Young Man in *Fore-ſtreet* near *Moor-gate* came to my Houſe, *April* 26. 1710. with ſeveral running Sores in his right Elbow. He wanted me to promiſe him a *perfect Cure*. I told him he miſtook the Man. Why, Sir, quoth he, you have done many great Cures, and why may you not cure me alſo? But without Promiſes, Bonds, or Contracts, ſaid I; and if you are willing to try the Means as others have

have done, leaving the Succeſs to the Almighty, you are welcome to my Aſſiſtance; which he agreed to. Accordingly I gave him ſome Vials of my *Specifick* Drops, to take 15 at a Time, in his common Table-drink thrice a-day, with Dreſſings for his Sores, and Rules for his *Diet*. I had no other Trouble with him, but to give him what Medicines he wanted, and before *Auguſt* he had not one Sore or Swelling about him. If his Sores do not break out again, as I hope (by all Circumſtances) they will not, it may paſs for *a perfect Cure beyond Relapſe.*

A Child about two Years old, immediately after the *Small-pox*, had a large Tumour on its right Arm. A Phyſician, as the Lady (the Child's Mother) told me recommended her to me, aſſuring her from his own Knowledge I had one of the beſt Remedies in the World for curing the *King's Evil*. The Tumour was very hard. I adviſ'd the Lady to give her Child my *Specifick* Liquor for its conſtant Drink; which ſhe did, and in about 7 Days time the Tumour broke, diſcharging much filthy Matter. The Sore was dreſs'd twice a Day, Morning and Night, with my *Specifick* Cerecloth, and in a Months time the Ulcer healed, without any other Trouble; the Child not having ever ſince the leaſt Spot or Blemiſh about her.

MR. *Joſeph Newman*, a Young Man about Nineteen Years of Age, having for ma-many Years been very much troubled with a *white dry Scab*, from the Crown of his Head

Head to his very Feet: For the Cure whereof, his Parents had tried every Thing they could hear of, but to little or no Purpoſe. I gave him my *Specifick* Liquor for his conſtant *Drink*, ordering him to eat every Day ſome particular Herbs dreſſed Sallet-wiſe; adviſing him alſo to lie (it being in the Heat of the Summer) in freſh clean Straw: by which Method, in three Months Time, he became perfectly well.

MRs. *Smith*, a Gentleman's Daughter about 14 Years of Age, of a weak tender Habit of Body, ever ſince ſhe had the *Small-pox*, was ſubject to Defluxions in both her Eyes: For the Cure whereof many Endeavours had been uſed by divers Practitioners. When I undertook her Cure, I firſt order'd her Hair to be ſhav'd cloſe, to waſh her Head, Eyes and Ears with my Specifick Water Morning and Night: Alſo to dip her Feet in cold Water every Night going to Bed, and to drink no other Liquor (except a Glaſs of Wine at Meals) for her conſtant Drink, but my Specifick Liquor, by which Means I cur'd her ſo perfectly well of her Defluxions, that they never return'd any more.

A Gentleman, *October* 8. 1708. brought his Child to my Houſe, between 7 and 8 Years old. The Boy had a large Tumour on the outſide of his Left Knee-Joint, which I obſerv'd was tending to a ſpeedy Suppuration: His Parents were fearful of its Breaking, which they deſir'd might be prevented. I told them in my Opinion it muſt break to ſave his Life; the repelling

ling of those Humours often producing many *Evils*. His Father committed his Son to my Care, and the Means I applied, in a few Days, broke the Tumour, which discharg'd a good and kindly Matter, the Boy being under no manner of Pain nor Confinement; however, after three Months had pass'd, in the Application of my Remedies, his Parents begun to reckon his Cure tedious, and therefore resolv'd to employ a Physician, who, it seems, had told them of a famous Diet-drink he had cur'd abundance of People withal: So that I was dismiss'd with no small Contempt by all Hands. The next Morning after the Gentleman had discharg'd me, a Gentlewoman with her Son, came to my House to know if I could Cure her Child of the *Evil* in his Eyes, and of some other running Sores in his Joints? Pray, Madam, said I, who hath been your Child's Physician? Such a Gentleman, said she, (naming the famous Diet-drink Doctor above-mention'd) How long (said I again to her) hath your Son taken of his Diet-Drink? Above a Twelve-month, reply'd the Lady. To make short of this Story, I undertook her Child's Cure, which I effected in Three Months. A finer Boy is hardly to be seen in *London* than he is now grown. The other Child, with his famous Doctor's Diet-drink, is not yet cured, and I fear never will, being, I am confident, fallen into a deep Consumption.

Fears and Jealousies, in these Cases, do frequently run a great many People into heavier Evils

Evils and Misfortunes than this Distemper would bring upon them if let alone. The Loss of my Fore-finger on the Left Hand, I am confident was wholly owing to my own Mother's timerous Temper, who, being over-perswaded by a Surgeon, to launce the Tumour between the Joints, to prevent (as he said) the fouling of the Bone, did, by that very Means deprive me of its Use for ever.

MR. *Burry*, of *Cirencester*, came up to *London*, with his only Son, to get him cured of the *Kings-Evil*, and among some others he sent for me to advise withal. So soon as I saw the Child, I told him if he could give me the Wealth of the *Indies*, I could not cure him. He told me that a famous Man, not far from *Lincoln's-Inn*, would engage to Cure his Child in six Weeks, no Cure no Money. If he doth, quoth I, I'll pay for that Cure, let it cost what it will. Two Months afterwards I met the Gentleman in *Fleetstreet*, who, with Tears in his Eyes, told me that his famous Practitioner had not fulfill'd his Promise, his Son every Day waxing worse and worse, he resolv'd (as he said by good Advice) to put his Child under some particular *Manual Operations*; which were, as I understand, perform'd on the *Monday*, and the following *Wednesday* Night, about 6, the poor Child died convulsive. In my former Discourses with this Child's Father, I had shewed him the ill Consequences of such Methods, that his Child was too weak and feeble to suffer the least Severity, that nothing in Nature

Nature could retrieve his Son's Life, and therefore it would be in vain to attempt any thing; but no Perſwaſives nor Examples are ſufficient to reſtrain ſome People from doing themſelves and others Hurt, where great Names and great Authorities interpoſe. I have been inform'd its a ſtanding Order in both our Hoſpitals, That no Perſon afflicted with the *Kings-Evil* ſhall be admitted into thoſe Houſes; which, if procur'd by the Profeſſors of *Phyſick* and *Surgery*, it looks as if they thought this Diſtemper incurable, and if ſo, it ſeems a little incongruous they ſhould meddle with it in their private Practice.

Stephen Duport, *Auguſt* 2. 1709. a Youth Living in *Greenwich*, was very much afflicted with running Sores under each Jaw. I happily cured him in a very ſhort Time, with the inward and outward Application of my *Specifick Remedy*.

Thomas Queſſingborough, next Door to the *Three Kings* in *Leaden-Hall-Street*, a Youth about 12 Years of Age, had a large glandulous Tumour in his Neck, which by the inward Application of my *Specifick Remedy*, ſpeedily broke, and diſcharged much filthy Matter, and in a few Months Time healed up with little or no *Scar*.

Mrs. *Young*'s Daughter, Living in St. *Albans* in *Hartfordſhire*, came to my Houſe *Sept.* 10. 1710. She had ſome Swellings on

both

both Sides her Neck, and a filthy Humour continually iſſuing from her Noſtrils. She declar'd an utter Abhorrence of any kind of *Phyſick*, rather chooſing to truſt Providence, than to undergo any of thoſe former Troubles and Fatigues, ſhe had been treated with: I aſſured her my Method of Cure, would neither give her Trouble nor Confinement. Upon this Condition ſhe was willing to take the *Specifick Remedy* in common Table-Drink, which had ſo good Effect, that the Flux of Matter running from her Noſtrils ceaſed in a Months Time, and her other Swellings by the end of the ſecond Month were all aſſwaged and gone; neither can I learn after many *Enquiries*, that ſince her Recovery ſhe hath had the leaſt Relapſe. Her ſpeedy Succeſs under my Hands encouraged divers other People in thoſe Parts, afflicted with the ſame Diſtemper to try the like Means; and (I thank God) to their Content and Satisfaction.

MRs. *Mary Lock* of *Hardy*, *Hampſhire*, came to my Houſe *June* 3. 1710. She had ſeveral glandulous Swellings in her Neck on each ſide of her Throat, and her Noſe a little ſwelled with the ſame Humour. After the Application of ſome other Preſcriptions as I thought convenient, I gave her a Scruple of the *Specifick*, to take thrice a Day in her common Drink, by the Uſe whereof without any outward Application, ſhe was freed from thoſe Swellings in leſs than Three Months; this Cure is pretty well known to ſome People, at the *Peacock* in *Clare-market*.

Mrs.

MR. *Moor*, a *Founder* near *Bishopsgate*, brought his Child to my House, *Jan.* 27, 1709. very much afflicted with the *Kings Evil* in one of her Feet, particularly in the Joint of the great Toe. She seemed to have a Complication of some other Distempers, and enclinable to a Consumption, complaining at Times of a very great Foulness and Oppression at her Stomach; which I removed by a gentle *Antimonial Emetick*, and then gave her the *Specifick Liquor* for her constant Drink, and Dressings for her Sores, which were all dried up by the following *August*, and all other Indispositions entirely removed.

MY only Child, aged 9 Years, being extremely afflicted with the *Evil* in her Eyes, the sight of both covered with thick Films, both Eye-lids swelled that she could not move them upwards, and thought by many to be past Recovery: I applied my self, *Sept.* 16. 1710. to Mr. *Vickers* of *Sherburn-Lane*, and only by the internal Application of his *Specifick Remedy*, her Eyes in Eight Days Time were perfectly recovered; and in all Appearance, she is intirely freed from that grievous Distemper. The Truth whereof may be known at the *Pewterers* Shop, next Door to *Feathers Court* near *Great Turn Style Holbourn*.

March 29. 1711. *Tho. Locket.*

THo. *Duncombe*, late of *Iſlington*, came to my Houſe *November* 11. 1709. with the Fore-finger of his Right Hand grievouſly ſwelled with this Evil Humour, inſomuch that he dreaded the loſs of his Hand; I told him he might do well in Time, provided he would have Patience. With this Encouragement he took my Medicines inwardly, and in 16 Days the Tumour broke with a mighty Diſcharge of Matter, which I then dreſſed with my *Specifick Cerecloth*, endeavouring to keep the Ulcer open, as long as it was poſſible to drain off the Morbifick Humour. In Three Months the Cure was finiſhed.

A Gentlewoman living in the *Strand*, much troubled with a fluſhing Heat in her Face, and abundance of Red Pimples; after ſeveral ſorts of Remedies tried to no Purpoſe, adviſed with me: I told her, I did not think her Diſtemper to be the *Evil*, but rather a Diſeaſe called *Gutta Roſacea*. She asked me, if my *Specifick Remedy* would do her any Good. I told her, that I had never tryed it in her Caſe, but I could Promiſe, that if it did her no Good, it would not do her any Hurt. Upon this Encouragement ſhe reſolved to take it; I adviſed her firſt to purge 3 Mornings with *Dullage* Waters; and then the *Specifick Liquor*, to drink at leaſt three Pints every Day, and to waſh her Face with the ſame at leaſt 7 or 8 Times. This Courſe with an Herb *Diet* ſhe followed two Months, whereby her Face became as

ſmooth

ſmooth and clear, as though ſhe had never been troubled with any ſuch complaint.

A Gentleman of my Acquaintance miſerably tormented with the *Piles*, both within and without; was willing to try if my Medicine wou'd be of any uſe in his Caſe. I adviſed him in the firſt Place to bleed Ten Ounces, after that to take an Ounce of *Cream* of *Tartar*, diſſolved in a Pint of warm Thin Water-Gruel, five Mornings; which when he had done, I gave him the *Specifick Liquor* for his conſtant Drink, directing him every Night to foment thoſe Parts with the ſame, Blood-warm. By the uſe hereof my Worthy Friend in Three Weeks got rid of his *Piles*; and hath continued free from them ever ſince.

MRs. *Eliz. Cotton*, Conſulted me by Letter out of the Country, *Auguſt* 25. 1708. Her Caſe was, in ſhort, that ſhe was troubled with ſeveral large ſtrumous Swellings on each ſide of her Neck, otherwiſe of an healthful Conſtitution; for the Cure whereof ſhe deſir'd me to ſend her ſome of my *Specifick Remedy*, with Inſtructions how to take it. Accordingly I ſent her a Quantity; with Directions to prepare it in Water for her conſtant Drink, the Uſe whereof ſhe continued Five Months; and thereby was freed of her Swellings, the breaking whereof ſhe dreaded above all Things, chooſing rather to die (as ſhe often ſaid) than to have a Sore about her.

MR. *Teming*'s Son, at the *Black Boy* and *Still*, near *Shoreditch* Church, much troubled with weak and ſore Eyes, was put under my Hands for his Cure, *July* 22. 1710. I purged him Twice or Thrice, and then gave him the *Specifick Liquor* for his conſtant Drink; adviſing him to waſh his Eyes therewith Night and Morning, and ſeveral Times in the Day: He punctually obſerving my Directions, ſpeedily reaped very much Benefit, and in a few Weeks became perfectly well; and has continued ſo ever ſince: The Truth whereof the Reverend Mr. *Price*, of *Stoke-Newington*, can Witneſs, as being performed in his Houſe.

William Thompſon, a poor young Fellow about 16 Years of Age, came to my Houſe *Auguſt* 1709. afflicted with a hard Cruſty Scab all over his Body, which he ſaid when hot in Bed did *Itch* ſo exceſſively that he ſeldom got any reſt. I did not look upon this to be the *Evil*, but an inveterate Leproſie. But becauſe of his Poverty, I was willing to endeavour his Cure. Accordingly I firſt purged him Seven or Eight Times, and then gave him the *Specifick Liquor* for his conſtant Drink. I directed him alſo to procure a large Tub deep enough to plunge himſelf over the Head, which being filled with Water, I mixed in it Three Gallons of the ſame *Specifick Liquor*, ordering him to Bathe himſelf therein every Morning the firſt Thing he did, and to do the ſame at Night going to Bed.

This

This Method he continued Three Weeks, and then his Scabs dropped off almoſt like Hail, and his whole Body became clear from that filthy Infection; to prevent any future Relapſe, or any other Indiſpoſition, I cauſed him to make Two Iſſues, one in each Arm, and repeated the former Purgation Four or Five Times. The following Spring, fearing the return of the Humour, I made ſome Enquiries after him, and found the Young Man in a very good State of Health, and without the leaſt Sign or Symptom of his former Illneſs about him. This *Thompſon* did live in *Tongue-Yard* by *White-Chappel* Church.

MR. *M.* An Apothecary in *Buckinghamſhire* was himſelf very much troubled with the *Evil* under each Jaw. *October* 15. 1708. he came to my Houſe with a Reſolution to try my Method of Cure; I gave him my Medicines with Directions how to uſe them. And ſo he returned Home. Two Months afterwards he ſent me Advice, that he had good Hopes of Succeſs; deſiring me to ſend him a double Quantity of Remedies the next return of the Carrier, being under ſome Apprehenſions, that one of his Children was falling into the ſame Diſtemper, her Eyes (as he ſaid) being often Sore, and her Upper Lip oftentimes much ſwelled; ſo that he would apply the ſame Means to her alſo, which he uſed to himſelf: Accordingly I ſent him what he deſir'd, with ſome Intimations to vary the Method of Application to his Child. It was full Four

Months before I heard from him a 3d time, in which Letter he gave me an account, that he judged himself perfectly cured; his Running Sores being healed up, and enjoying such a State of Health, that he never had the like before: and for his Child, he said her Eyes were well also, tho' the Swelling of her Lip was not quite asswaged. *April* 7. 1711. I met with his Kinsman, a Clerk in the *East India* House, who told me that his Cousin, my *quondam* Patient, continued very well, and free from any Returns of his old Distemper.

JOnathan *Barrot* at the *White Lion Tavern* in *Cornhill*, brought his Child to my House *May* the 1st, 1708. The Girl had several Swellings about her Neck and Face, and a very large one in her Left Leg. The internal Use of my *Specifick* in a little time caused all her Swellings to break and run. Her Sores being dressed twice a day with my Cerecloth, and washed with the same Liquor whereof she drank, they discharged abundance of filthy Matter for several Months, and then they all healed sound and well, which gave her Parents great Hopes of a *perfect Cure beyond Relapse*; but I had some Reason to believe the Disease would break out afresh elsewhere the following Spring, and so it came to pass. A large Tumour arose under her Left Ear, which by the repeated Use of the former Method was afterwards cured: And since this last Eruption the Child hath not been troubled with any other Swellings nor Breakings out, and (excepting a

little

little Scurff in her Head) she is now of a very healthful Constitution.

THE *Tonsils*, or Almonds of the Ears (as Mr. Serjeant *Wiseman* has observed) are frequently swelled in the *King's Evil*, which Tumour, saith he, may be very well reckoned a Species of it.

Such was the Case of a Young Gentleman, who came out of the County with both *Tonsils* very much swelled, attended with great difficulty of Swallowing. Various Methods of Cure had been try'd, but all proving ineffectual, I was advis'd with upon the Recommendation of another young Gentleman in the same Neighbourhood, who had been my Patient to his Content. I began his Cure with a purging *Chalybeate* of my own Contrivance, which gave him 4 or 5 Stools every day he took it. A Man would hardly believe the Ease and Benefit which this Gentleman received in a short time by that Medicine, insomuch that he thought himself perfectly cured; but as I knew it was not so, I press'd the internal Use of my *Specifick* for 6 or 8 Weeks, unto which he consented, and thereby became well, and hath continued so for above these two Years, being informed by several Letters from him, that he hath not had the least Grounds to be apprehensive of any Relapse.

A Young Gentleman, the Son of a Clergyman, was grievously afflicted with the *Evil* from his Infancy, the Distemper having

seized

ſeized his Eyes, Arms, Hands and Feet in ſuch a miſerable manner, that very few (excepting my ſelf) have had the like. As he never wanted Money (his Father having left him a plentiful Fortune) ſo he had the beſt Advice and Aſſiſtance this *Metropolis* could afford; but he found little good by it. No ſooner was his Inclination of coming under my Hands diſcover'd, but all the ill-natur'd Invectives imaginable were uſed to diſcourage him. *An ignorant Fellow, that knew nothing of the Matter,* was the leaſt that could be ſaid; however he reſolved to try. After I had viewed his Sores, and made ſome Enquiries into his Conſtitution, I told him, if he would take the *Specifick Liquor* for his conſtant Drink, and only waſh his *Ulcers* therewith ſeveral times in a Day, it was my Opinion he might be well. This Courſe, with Directions for his *Diet*, he continued ſix Months, and before the Concluſion of the ſeventh, he had not one Sore left about him. I then deſir'd him at his Leiſure to wait on my *Good Friends*, and to ſhew them the Fruits of my Endeavours, that for the future if they had any Shame or Senſe in 'em, they might ſpare their Calumny and Slander, which in the end would fall upon themſelves. But they remain'd incorrigible even by ſuch an apparent ſenſible Demonſtration.

MR. *Theckers* of *Stockton* in the Biſhoprick of *Durham*, brought his Child from thence, *May* 1710. to put her under my Care. She had only one Sore on the Left Shin-bone, whoſe Orifice

Orifice was but ſmall, neither did her Sore appear ſo bad as a great many others do. But I had ſome Reaſon to think that the Bone was *carious*. To prevent therefore any Surprize which might happen upon the taking of my *Specifick*, I told the Parents, that if the Bone was foul the Medicine would cauſe an Exfoliation. I gave them a ſufficient Quantity of the Remedy for inward and outward Application, with Directions how to uſe it, and ſo they returned home. The firſt News I received from them was thus:

SIR,

MY humble Service to you. This is to acquaint you, that my Child is in good health, and that a great Piece of the Bone in her Leg is come out, without any Pain or Confinement to the Child. I deſire you to ſend me a freſh Supply of Powder and Salve, who am your humble Servant,

Stockton, Aug. 3. 1710. Mary Thekerell.

The next and laſt Account I had from this Child's Mother was as followeth.

SIR,

I Bleſs God that my Child is now ſound and well, the Sore hath ceaſed running above this ſix Weeks. She complains of no Manner of Pain nor Weakneſs in the Part, but in all reſpects is as healthful as any other Child in this Town, if any Relapſe or Return of the ſame Humour ſhould befall her in any other Place the next Spring, you

ſhall

ſhall have timely Notice. The Bearer hereof hath to ſatisfy you for the Cure. My Husband gives you Thanks for your Care, with his humble Service, as alſo doth your obliged humble Servant,

Stockton, Dec. 4. 1710. Mary Theckers.

A Poor Woman living in *Grays-Inn Lane* brought her Child, a Girl about 11 Years of Age, to my Houſe, *Sept.* 14. 1708. The Fingers of one of her Hands were almoſt eaten away with Ulcers, and the Bones of the Right Heel and Foot were all bare, fetid and black. I gave the Woman Dreſſings for her Child's Sores, and the *Specifick* to take inwardly, ordering her to come conſtantly for a freſh Supply of both whenever ſhe wanted; and ſhe did ſo for ſome Months with great Satisfaction and Expectation of a Cure. But about the latter End of *February* following the Child relapſed and grew worſe, and then her Mother's Goodwill was turned into Hatred and foul Language, and nothing would ſerve, but ſhe would get her Child into the *Hoſpital*; which was endeavoured, but becauſe it was the *Evil*, the Child was rejected. The Father then came with many Intreaties, begging me to renew my former Applications. I did ſo, and in a few Months afterwards the Child became well. The Man's Name to the beſt of my Remembrance was *Skirrow*.

Where theſe Humours are of any long continuance *Relapſes*, will ſometimes happen, before they

they can be totally eradicated. Chronical Diſeaſes, like accuſtomed Habits, do acquire great Strength, and become as it were natural, and conſequently will not quit their Hold without ſeveral Efforts. In all ſuch Caſes a wiſe Phyſician will not Gallop nor Spur Nature on too faſt, leaſt by exaſperating the Humours, he raiſe a *Devil* he's not able to lay. And this a ſmall matter will do in ſome People, eſpecially thoſe of a hectick and conſumptive Habit, the general Companions of this Diſeaſe.

A

Henry Wright, Servant to a Silverſmith near the May-pool in the *Strand*, came with his Maſter to adviſe with me about his Caſe, *October* the 24*th*, 1706. The Young Man had the *Evil* in his Right Thumb, the Joint much ſwelled, with ſeveral running Sores. He had been under the Hands of the Man who boaſts of Perfection in this Diſtemper, a Year and half. I am confident there is no *Old Wife* whatſoever ſo ignorant, but would have kept the Ulcers ſweet and clean, which were here ſo much otherwiſe, as my Servants can witneſs, that it was almoſt ten Days before I could cleanſe off their Filthineſs. The Sores I dreſs'd twice a day with my *Specifick Cerecloth*, and gave him my *Specifick Liquor* for his conſtant Drink. Theſe Applications cauſed the Bone to caſt off ſome few *Scales*, and in all likelihood a ſpeedy Cure would have followed, if his Mother had not ſent for him into the Country, thro' the Inſtigation of a Coun-

Country Surgeon in those Parts, who perswaded her to expect mighty Matters from his own Abilities. But the young Man, as I am inform'd, is not cur'd to this very Day.

Having already intimated, *p.* 24. that this Distemper is sometimes found in the inward Parts, where there are no outward Signs or Indications of it, the following Case I conceive a very clear Instance thereof.

A Gentleman of my Acquaintance often complaining of a nasty fulsome Stink in his Nostrils, which was so troublesome and uneasy to him, that he was very much dejected therewith, tho' to all appearance his Nose both within and without looked as well as any other Persons whatsoever, and having seen many Examples of my Success upon other People with my *Specifick Remedy*, was inclinable to make an Essay whether it might reach his own Case. I told him, if he had any such Design, it would be convenient to take first of all 2 or 3 Dozes of another Medicine I had to recommend, and then make the *Specifick* Liquor his constant Drink. He followed my Advice, and in the Space of a Month, as he was sitting with some Company over a Glass of Wine, finding some Provocation to blow his Nose, out came a rotten Bone into his Handkerchief somewhat bigger than a Rounseval Pea. What Bone it was, or what Part it belonged to, I could not discover. But the Gentleman never suffered the least Hurt thereby, nor was he from that time

time ever troubled with his former nauſeous Smell. Here was no *Manual Operation*, but the pure Effects of the Medicine, in ſuch a manner as neither of us had the leaſt Thought or Apprehenſion of.

A Gentleman unknown to me came to my Houſe in his Chariot, to carry me to a Friend of his troubled with a large Swelling in his *Groin*. Divers Applications (I perceived) had been uſed to diſſolve it, and alſo various Opinions had paſſed among the Learned about its Cauſe; and ſome ſaid one thing, and ſome another. I declared that in my Opinion it was a *ſcrophulous Tumour*, and the only way to be rid of it was to bring it to Suppuration. The Gentleman diſputed my Skill, becauſe it was not in my Profeſſion. Why, quoth the other, if the Parſon acquits himſelf with Sincerity and Succeſs, do not trouble your ſelf about his Profeſſion. Sir, ſaid I to the Patient, allowing your Exceptions, thus much I dare affirm, that if you can be contented without doing any thing, this Swelling will break in ten or twelve Days; for Nature (which is the beſt Guide) is doing her own Work, if you do not interrupt her by unneceſſary Applications. My Predictions proving true, and according to the time, he ſent me an Account thereof in a Penny-Poſt Letter, deſiring me to come once more to his Chambers. I went the next Morning, and found a plentiful Diſcharge of Matter, and to convince him that I had no Deſign upon his Purſe, I deſir'd him to ſend to any

Apothecary for a certain *Salve*, and to dreſs the *Ulcer* therewith twice a day; and if in ſix Weeks or two Months he was not therewith cured, I would be his Bond-ſlave for ever. He then made no ſcruple to follow my Advice, and found it effectual. If any one queſtion my Skill or Honeſty in this Caſe, I muſt confeſs I am not skilful enough to deviſe what may be ſufficient for his Satisfaction.

A Young Man about nineteen Years of Age, Apprentice to a Linnen Draper, came to my Houſe *April* the 10*th*, 1709. He had ſeveral running Sores in one of his Legs of about 3 or 4 Years ſtanding. After I had given him ſome Account of my Method, and my Opinion withal, that it would require ſome conſiderable Time to accompliſh his Cure, he told me an eminent Practitioner in the City propos'd to do it in 6 Weeks, by ſweetening his Blood with *Mercurial Purgatives* and *Sudorifick Decoctions*. With all my Heart, ſaid I, but before you engage, pray breathe a Vein, and let me ſee the Blood. He did ſo, and I do not know that I have ſeen better Blood than his then was. After he had been under this eminent Practitioner's Directions about ten Weeks, he came to me again with many grievous Complaints, begging my Aſſiſtance for his Cure, if it were poſſible, or at leaſt to help him to ſome tolerable Eaſe. I required him once more to open a Vein, that I might ſee his Blood after this Purification; and it then appear'd in the Porringer like the corrupted Matter in his ſore

Leg.

Leg. Moreover his Body was ſo extremely emaciated with thoſe ſtrong Evacuations, that I greatly feared a *Conſumption*. But conſidering, the more difficult the Cure, ſo much the more Honour, if I ſucceeded, I wrote him in the firſt Place a Bill of *Fare* for his conſtant *Diet*, and then gave him Dreſſings for his Sores, with Directions how to apply them, and my *Specifick Liquor*, to take three half Pints at three Times every Day. In Two Months Time, he gained conſiderable Strength. Then I adviſed him to double the Quantity of Liquor every Day, and not to fail waſhing his ſore Leg Morning and Night with the ſame Drink. In the Month of *Auguſt*, he fell Ill of the *Small Pox*, for which Diſtemper, I would have left him to the Care of ſome Phyſician; but he abſolutely refuſing, I was under a Neceſſity of aſſiſting him in that Caſe alſo. It pleaſed God, that he recovered of that, and tho' the *Small Pox* had rather increaſed than diminiſhed his other Diſtemper, his Leg being more ſwelled than before, yet with much Difficulty, I did bring him quite to Rights by the following *February*; and this, all Things conſidered, I think may be reckon'd no very tedious Cure.

MAY 1709. A Gentleman, who (like many others) was very unwilling it ſhould be known that he had the *Evil*, came to me as from another Perſon. By his Complexion, I judg'd he was not himſelf free from the Diſtemper, which upon telling him my Thoughts he did not deny. He had ſeveral running

Sores on his Breaſt and Shoulders; and ſo bad that it was Seven Months before they were cured by my Medicine. I am engaged to Secreſie as to his Name, *&c.* but I muſt do him the Juſtice, to own he was very generous in his Acknowledgments for the Service I had done him.

FEB. 1709. A Gentleman came to me afflicted with great Pain *in Ano*, and a diſcharge of Matter in the Part. He had formerly had ſeveral Tumours in his Neck, but having been freed from them a conſiderable while, and being above Fifty Years of Age, he had no Apprehenſions that his preſent Ailment had any Thing of the *Evil* in it. That there was no Reaſon to truſt to his Age, I convinced him by an Inſtance of one Ten Years Older than himſelf; and told him moreover, it was my Opinion, that the *Evil* Humour had but chang'd its Place. After ſome Deliberation, he reſolv'd to try my Medicine, and my *Specifick Liquor* became his conſtant Drink: In about Three Weeks Time, a large Tumour aroſe on his right Buttock, which, beſides its trouble, made him much concern'd; but by Patience and Perſeverance, in the Uſe of my Medicine, in Six Months Time he became ſound and well.

MAry Garland, of *Eden* in *Northamptonſhire*, came to me *July* 10. 1710. ſhe was a very loathſome Spectacle, her Face and Noſe being in a manner one continued Scab; and ſhe had

been

been twice fluxed for it. I gave her Medicines and Directions, and sent her Home, and what the Success was, her own Letter speaks as follows.

SIR,

THis with my humble Service to you, is to acquaint you that my Cheeks are healed, and also the Ulcer in my Nose, my Toes on both Feet, after the drinking of your Specifick, and the Use of those Powders you prescribed broke out, but (Thanks be God) they are well also. If you Judge it convenient to send me a fresh Supply, I shall follow your Directions, if not, let me know your Pleasure by the next Post. I have desired my Brother in Red-Lion-Square, *to wait on you with my Acknowledgments and hearty Thanks. So I conclude your most obliged humble Servant.*

April 30. 1711. Mary Garland.

John Mast, of *Much-Baddow* in *Essex*, aged between 30 and 40, afflicted many Years with several running Sores on his Thigh, he had a large Tumour in the *Inguen*, and the Joint of one Knee so contracted, that he could not go without Crutches. *Mr. Johnson*, of *Chelmsford* (a very skilful Surgeon, who to my Knowledge has done great Things in other Cases) had salivated the Poor Man twice, and used all other Methods he could think of for his Cure. Having view'd his Condition, *Christmas* 1709. I told him there was no Prospect of recovering the use of his Knee, but

I hoped to heal the Sores, and cure the Tumour, and what my Succeſs has been the following Letter ſhews.

Mr. *Vickers*,

THis is to let you know how I do: I am very weak of my Knee, tho' not ſo full of Pain (bleſſed be God) as I uſed to be; I have no Sores, Swellings, nor Symptoms of the Evil now about me, all having been dried up above theſe Three Months, and in all other Reſpects (excepting the Lameneſs of my Knee) *in very good health. I return God and you Thanks, for the Benefit I have received. This is all from your humble Servant.*

April 28. 1711. John Maſt.

MR. *Wyboar*'s Daughter of *Peterborough*, a Child between 7 and 8 Years Old, very much troubled with the *Evil* in her Eyes, I cured in a ſhort Time, the Child continuing free from that Diſtemper ever ſince ſhe left *London*, which is a Twelve Month ago.

The Breaſts are evidently obnoxious to the *Kings Evil*, as the Learned and Ingenious Mr. Serjeant *Wiſeman* obſerveth, p. 245.

SUch was the Caſe of one Mrs. *Suſan Bright*, a Young Woman about 22 Years of Age, ſhe had a large round moveable Tumour, the bigneſs of a Pigeons Egg, in her right Breaſt, Some had adviſed her to have it cut out,

which

which I did not disapprove of, provided that Operation would prevent the Humour from breaking out elsewhere; which she said none of those with whom she had consulted would warrant: Her Poverty moved my Compassion to her. To the Tumour I applied *Emplastrum Ammoniaci cum cicuta*, purging her twice a Week with a Chalybeate Tincture. And for her constant Drink, I advised her to take the *Specifick Liquor*. By the Use of this Method the Tumour in Three Months Time vanished: I then ordered her to get an Issue cut in her right Arm.

Jan. 29. 1710. Mr. *Tho. Tillisson*, a Surgeon in *Ludlow*, *Shropshire*, sent me his Son's Case, as follows in his own Words. *Aged about Ten Years, miserably afflicted with the* Kings Evil *in both Hands and Feet, the first Finger on the Right Hand being as big as a Child's Wrist with Scrophulous Tumours, and strumous Ulcers, except the first Joint which is only free, some carious Bones have been exfoliated from the* Metacarpus, *and many black, rough, large fœtid ones from the* Ulna *of his left Arm, and we daily expect more.* Then follows an Account of what had been done, and with how little Success; and *in fine*, his Desires, that I would send him some of my *Specifick* with Directions, *&c.* I did so with the first Opportunity. No Man who is sensible of the badness of the Case, can imagine either mine or any other Medicine should have already work'd a Cure, but by his Letter of the 30th of *April*,

Mr.

Mr. *Tillisson* informs me, that his Son has found great Benefit by what I sent; and upon a farther Supply, he doubts not of a *Perfect Cure*; his Ulcers being come to the State I foretold in my last to him. What the Success will be, Time (with God's Blessing) will shew: But I mention this now, because I suppose Mr. *Tillisson* is not a Stranger to some of his Fraternity in these Parts.

Jacob Johnson of *Cockermouth*, came to *London*, *May* 1709. with a *Pustula* in his Right Eye, and also a large strumous Swelling in his Left Foot. I begun his Cure with a Chalybeate purging Tincture, for nine Mornings. Afterwards I gave him the *Specifick Liquor* for his constant Drink, which in a few Days broke the Swelling, attended with a large Discharge of Matter, which was dressed Morning and Night with my *Specifick Ointment* and *Cerecloth*. Sometime afterwards the Defluxion in his Eye ceased. I kept the Ulcer in his Foot so much the longer open upon the Account of his Eye, least by healing of the Foot, the Humour might return thither again. It was Eight Months before he was cured, which Time the Young Man did not think long, considering the Benefit he reaped therein.

A Young Woman, living in *Long-Acre*, having been some Years subject to an Inflamation in her Face and Neck; for the Cure whereof an Eminent Practitioner had given

her

her a *Lotion* to wash her Face and Neck, as often as she pleased; which repelled the Humour into her Eyes, but that was attended with great Pain, Inflamation, and Fluxion of Rheum. I advised her in the first Place to make two Issues between her Shoulders, to purge thrice a Week with *Dullage* Waters, and to drink my *Specifick Liquor* for her constant Drink, with a Glass of Wine at her Dinner. It pleased God, by this Course in Six Weeks she recovered, and she has continued now free from any Relapse above this Twelve Month.

MRs. *Mary White*, a Young Gentlewoman about 17 Years of Age, much subject to the *Kings Evil* in her Neck; whereof she was cured by a Country Physician, and continued well three or four Years: But afterwards fell Ill of a weeping *Fistula* in her Left Eye from the great *Canthus*. I prescribed her a Water made of my *Specifick*, mixed with equal parts of *Rose* and *Plantain* Water, to wash the Part therewith Morning and Night, and several Times in the Day; and to take the *Specifick Liquor* for her constant Drink, purging her between Times with an Infusion of *Rhubarb* and *Sene*, by which Method she was in a few Months cured. And I hope will continue so.

THe Daughter of an Eminent Divine, having some glandulous Swellings in her Neck, was Recommended to my Care, *July* 1708. her Swellings (tho' numerous) being but

but ſmall, I endeavoured to prevent their breaking; the Young Woman took a Scruple of my *Specifick Powder* thrice a Day; which without any other Trouble, in Nine Weeks Time waſted her Swellings, ſo that now ſhe hath not the leaſt Sign or Symptom of the Evil about her. Her Father being extremely well pleaſed with my Succeſs, and the Innocency of the Means, hath procured me many other conſiderable Patients.

SIR,

NO longer a-go than Wedneſday *Night laſt, I ſaw your Patient Mrs.* Elizabeth Gillſon, *who not only looks well, but her Eyes [to all Appearance] are as well now as mine, can ſee to work with her Needle, without any Offence or Trouble to her. She continues the taking of your Medicine with great Pleaſure and Satisfaction: We have a Poor Woman in this Town about Forty Years of Age, miſerably afflicted with the ſame Diſtemper from her Cradle; if you can do her any Good, let me know by the next Poſt: Which will oblige your moſt aſſured Friend and Servant.*

Rector of *West-Wickham, Cambridgeſhire*, December 2. 1710. Alington Harriſon.

☞ This Mrs. *Eliz. Gillſon*, had been Blind ſeveral Years, with the *Evil* in her Eyes, whoſe Cure I begun *Sept.* 8. 1710.

There

THere be Three Means (*saith the Lord Bacon*) *of fortifying People's Belief, viz.* Experience, Reason, *and* Authority. *The former of these I have endeavoured to manifest with all possible Plainness and Sincerity in this Specimen; for the second I refer to the foregoing Book: As to the Latter* (*the Principal Thing which most People have in view, and are governed by*) *I claim no Pretensions to it. And therefore if these Instances of my Success, together with what is before offered in the Book, are not Inducements and Convictions strong enough to perswade: It surpasseth my Judgment to find out a Remedy for their* Incredulity.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

PAge 26. Line *ult.* read *Sylvius.* P. 48. l. 15. r. *Diseases.*

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